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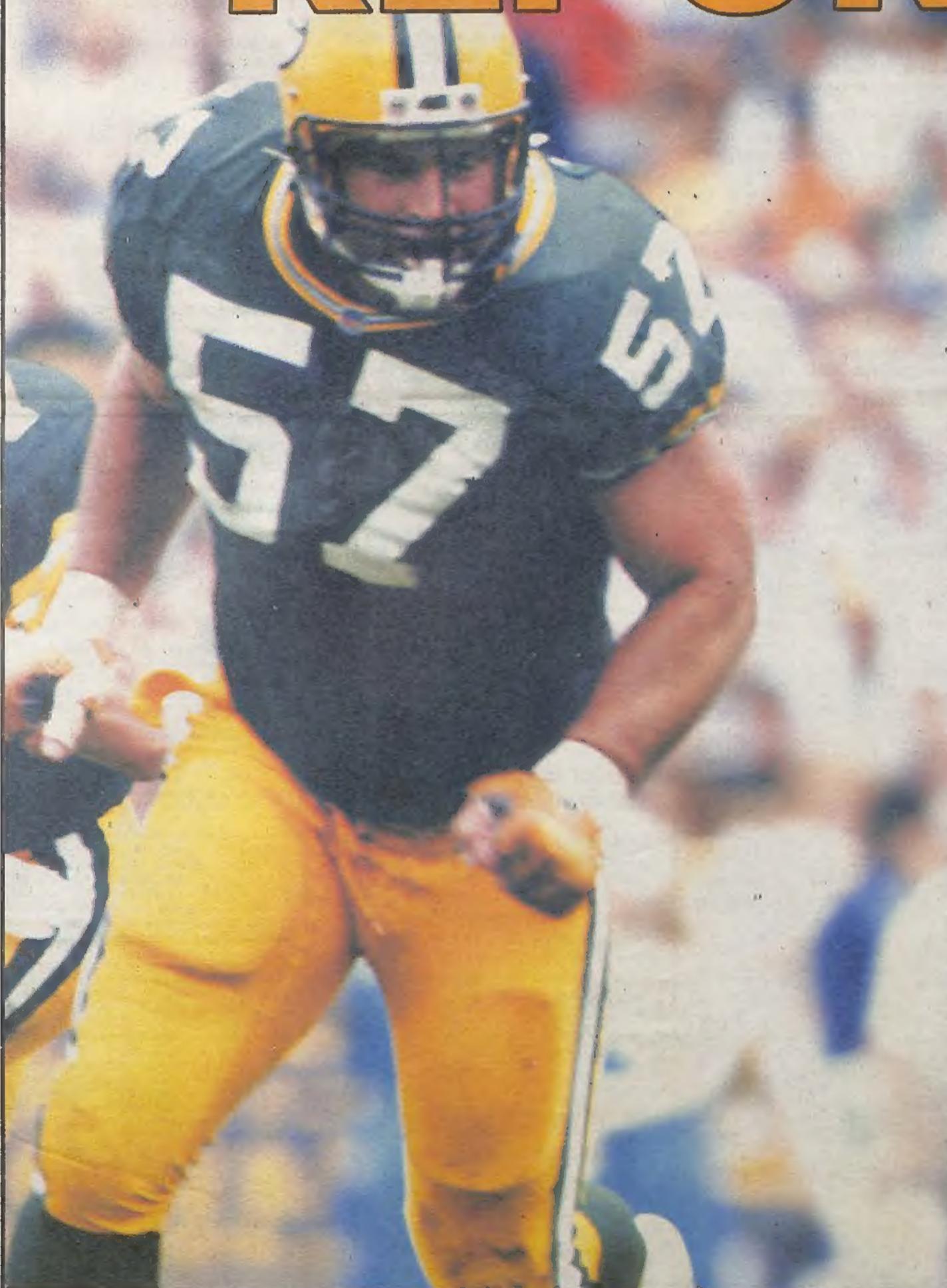
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Ray Mitchell's

PACKER REPORT

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A NEWSPAPER DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO THE
GREEN BAY PACKERS AND THE NFL.

Vol. 21 No. 3 August 14, 1993

**Chiefs 29,
Pack 21**

**Wolf:
Urgency
needed**

**Teague
is
learning
Andy's
in the
booth**



Commentary

Two of these performances are hard for fans to accept

Listless. No emotion. Flat.

These words all come to mind when considering Saturday's 29-21 loss to the Chiefs in Milwaukee.

Anytime you go on the field against an opponent, you have to be fired up and have to be *into* what you're doing. I didn't see that Saturday.

And I don't know why. I don't know if they've been reading that they don't have to play these games or what the story is.

I don't care who you are playing. Play with excitement, play with hard-nosed attitude and be smart and concentrate. You're professionals. This was a lackadaisical performance on the part of many of the players. I saw very little continuity. I saw very little established.

Yes it might be pre-season but it's still a game. When you step out there, you must be ready: to execute and carry out your assignments. As a player, you are getting ready for the season. If they continue to perform like this, it will be a darned long season. They must start rallying around each other.

Getting beat is one thing. How you get beat is another. I thought the Packers were humiliated by the Chiefs. Their first string dominated the Packers' first string. Both sides of the ball. That's humiliating.

The Packers have to go back to the drawing board. Each player must look at

himself. I don't know who thinks they have the team made, but hey, if I was the guy making the choices, it would be who performs? Who executes?

RAY NITSCHKE



You can't go by what you read in the paper. You have to go out there and do it on the field. The Packers certainly didn't do that.

I think in the next three weeks, there needs to be a lot of settling down and a lot of guys starting to play good, solid football. That's *executing* the blocking, catching the passes, making the tackles, wrapping up on those tackles and making interceptions when the opportunity occurs.

Everybody has to execute their own position and contribute some spirit to the overall affair.

Each individual can control only what he does. Each and every individual has to look at himself. He has to say, "I need to get the job done. The job isn't getting done right now." If everybody takes care of his whole business, everything else will take care of itself.

They *must* start picking it up. Two weeks in a row is embarrassing.

We're getting closer and closer to when the real games start. And you can't turn it on at the last minute. The switch doesn't suddenly get turned on in the final pre-season game.

You need to create a winning attitude during your training camp and your pre-season games. During the games, you should be building the confidence level in each other under game conditions.

The games are supposed to be fun. To me, if you're going to play the game, you might as well win. You're out there anyway, you better do the best you possibly can. An individual player during camp isn't going to play the whole game — unless he's Frank Winters — so you need to perform in that segment of the game you're called upon — whether it's brief or game-long. You need to be fired up and ready for that opportunity.

If it's me, whether it's pre-season, regular season or whatever, I want to make sure I perform. I want to make sure I'm doing my part.

I think the Packers have to look at themselves first and take care of their own jobs and then come together and gel as a team. Sure, there's a lot of new faces, but not getting it from center, miss-handling handoffs and blowing coverages, lacking aggressiveness, not making interceptions is not affected by new faces. It's individual effort.

Everything you do now is building for the season. You need to improve in each game. Take care of your own job in each game and get better at it.

I'm still waiting for the Packers to get better.

PACKER DATES FOR 1993

Aug. 2	Monday	<i>Packer Report</i> resumes every-Monday publishing		
Aug. 7	Saturday	Chiefs at Milw.	7 p.m.	
Aug. 14	Saturday	Saints at Madison, Wis.	Noon	
Aug. 20	Friday	at New England	6 p.m.	
Aug. 27	Friday	Colts	7 p.m.	
Aug. 30	Monday	Final Roster Cuts		
Sept. 3-7	Fri.-Mon.	Great Green Bay Kickoff Celebration, Green Bay		
Sept. 5	Sunday	Rams at Milw.	CBS	Noon
Sept. 12	Sunday	Eagles	CBS	Noon
Bye Week				
Sept. 26	Sunday	at Minnesota	CBS	Noon
Oct. 3	Sunday	at Dallas	CBS	Noon
Oct. 10	Sunday	Broncos	TNT*	6:30 p.m.
Bye Week				
Oct. 24	Sunday	at Tampa Bay	CBS	Noon
Oct. 31	Sunday	Bears	CBS	Noon
Nov. 8	Monday	at Kansas City	ABC*	8 p.m.
Nov. 14	Sunday	at New Orleans	CBS	Noon
Nov. 21	Sunday	Lions at Milw.	CBS	Noon
Nov. 28	Sunday	Buccaneers	CBS	Noon
Dec. 5	Sunday	at Chicago	CBS	Noon
Dec. 12	Sunday	at San Diego	ESPN*	7 p.m.
Dec. 19	Sunday	Vikings at Milw.	CBS	Noon
Dec. 26	Sunday	Raiders	NBC	Noon
Jan. 2	Sunday	at Detroit	CBS	Noon

* Nationally televised

All Times are Central Time

PACKER REPORT

A Royle Publication devoted exclusively to the Green Bay Packers and the NFL.

Vol. 21 No. 3 Aug. 14, 1993

On the cover...

Pullin' out with guard Rich Moran

— Vernon J. Biever photo

In the middle ...

Relaxin' with cornerback Terrell Buckley.

— David J. Garot photo

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More mistakes

Little progress evident in 29-21 loss to Kansas City

By Joe DiGiovanni

MILWAUKEE - Coaches worry more about making progress than getting victories in exhibition games.

Coach Mike Holmgren didn't see much improvement in his starters Saturday night as the Chiefs dominated the first half to post a 29-21 victory before 51,655 at County Stadium here. The loss dropped the Packers' to 0-2 despite a strong second half by the reserves.

Kansas City, in its first outing, took a 20-0 halftime lead and coasted in the second half.

"I don't think I'll see much improvement (on game films) on the first half," Holmgren said. "We were sloppy."

"We have to correct the mistakes," he said. "We came out flat in the first half and they were able to control the ball."

The biggest question mark for the Packers is their running game. It again was difficult for Holmgren to evaluate that aspect of the game with guard Rich Moran the only 1992 starter able to play.

Tackle Cecil Gray got burned by all-pro linebacker Derrick Thomas with 3:26 left in the second quarter and the Chiefs leading, 10-0. Thomas blindsided Brett Favre, causing him to fumble for a turnover.

The Chiefs took possession at Green Bay's 19 and scored two plays later to make it 17-0 and put the game out of reach. Quarterback Matt Blundin, who is fighting to make Kansas City's roster, hit Tim Barnett at the 6.

Barnett managed to elude five Packers, including rookie linebacker James Willis, who missed a tackle, and scampered into the end zone with 2:40 left in the first half.

On the Chiefs' next possession, Blundin completed 6-of-8 passes for 53 yards to set up a 45-yard field goal by Nick Lowery with nine seconds left, making it 20-0.

Trouble on ball exchanges

Favre and newly-acquired John Stephens had difficulty, fumbling two exchanges — one recovered by Kansas City. When Favre managed to get the ball to the backs in the first half, they gained only 15 yards on six carries.

"You don't expect any type of mistake on offense," Stephens said. "They just happen."

"I'm going to try to play solid ball and not make any more mistakes," he said.

Favre, who played the entire first half, completed 7-of-10 passes for 49 yards. The Chiefs had 253 total yards in the half to the Packers' 55 and Kansas City held the ball for 20 minutes, 48 seconds.

Even with Joe Montana on the sidelines, the visitors were able to run and pass up the middle effectively, and Green Bay defenders failed to wrap their arms on many missed tackles.

Reggie White was in for about 30 plays and got the crowd excited with 6:23 left in the first quarter. He chased Chiefs' quarterback Dave Krieg out of the pocket and toward the right sideline.

Using a new rule that allows quarter-



It was one of those nights -- a long night -- for both the Packer offense and defense Saturday in Milwaukee during their 29-21 loss to the Chiefs.

Safety Bernie Thompson separates fullback Marcus

backs to ground the ball when out of the pocket. Krieg fired the ball to the sidelines just as he was knocked to the ground by White. The all-pro end assisted on his first tackle for Green Bay with 14:02 to go in the second quarter, stopping Harvey Williams along with Brian Noble on a four-yard gain.

"The scary thing will be if it keeps happening in the regular season," White said of the sloppy play. "We've got to get better. We just came out flat."

The Chiefs took a 3-0 lead on a 26-yard field goal by Lowery, capping an 8:40 drive to open the game.

Taking over at Green Bay's 37 after Favre and Stephens fumbled an exchange, Kansas City took eight plays to make it 10-0 on Williams' one-yard run up the middle with 1:19 left in the first quarter.

Brunell one of Pack's few bright spots

There were a few bright spots for the Packers, mostly reserves. Mark Brunell, who saw his first pre-season action playing the entire second half, led Green Bay on three scoring drives against the Chiefs' reserves.

The fifth-round choice from Washington nailed 4-of-4 passes for 48 yards on his first drive, including two completions to Mark Clayton for 29 yards. On first down from the Chiefs' 15, he threw a floater into the end zone toward Clayton.

Clayton was hit by Tahaun Lewis, who was called for interference, giving Green Bay a first down on the one. Dexter McNabb entered the end zone on the next play for the Packers' first 1993 touchdown, cutting the lead to 20-7 with 11:12 left in the third quarter.

Brunell finished 12-of-24 for 139 yards and two fourth-quarter TD passes.

Kansas City took a 22-7 lead two possessions later on a strange safety with 4:16 to go in the quarter. Blundin's pass deflected off Noble into the hands of tight



Wilson from a potential reception (left) and linebacker Jeff Brady wasn't quite able to catch up with this potential interception.

— James V. Biever photos

hit Beach again for a nine-yard TD.

The special teams played solidly and forced a turnover on a punt return in the fourth quarter. Danan Hughes muffed the punt and Willis recovered at the Chief 41.

Six plays later, Brunell capped the scoring by connecting with Ron Lewis for a 22-yard touchdown with 1:58 to go.

The defensive reserves held Kansas City's reserves to 126 total yards in the second half. Koonce led the Packers with four tackles and six assists and cornerback Corey Harris, working on his transition from wide receiver, had two tackles and an assist. He never got beat for long gains in the second half.

Tight end Mark Chmura suffered a hyperextended elbow and safety Carl Carter received a hip pointer in the game, but there were no other injuries reported. Tight end Jackie Harris sat out this game because of an eye infection which blurred his vision.

end Mike Dyal at the Packers' 5.

Dyal fumbled and rookie cornerback

George Teague grabbed the ball at the

three and ran toward the right sideline.

Dyal nailed him, forcing Teague to fumble into the end zone where linebacker

George Koonce pounced on the ball. That

was initially signalled a touchback — but

upon further consultation, the field officials awarded Kansas City the safety.

Darius Turner scored on a five-yard

run for Kansas City with 9:59 left in the

game, giving the Chiefs a 29-7 lead.

Special teams sets offense up for score

On the Packers' next drive, Brunell hit

Robert Brooks for a 24-yard gain to the

Green Bay 39 on third down to start the

March.

Marcus Wilson went around right end

for 22 yards to the K.C. 39 on the next

play. Brunell hit Sanjay Beach for 12

more yards, and after two running plays,

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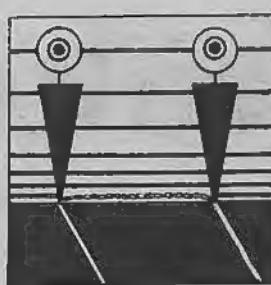
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GAME STATISTICS

SCORING SUMMARY

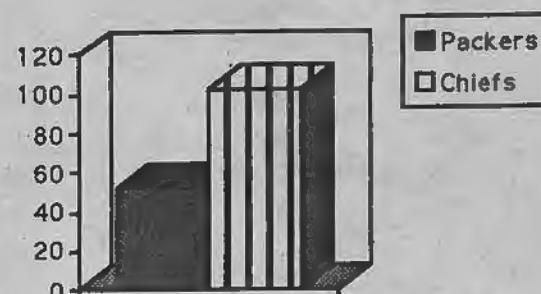
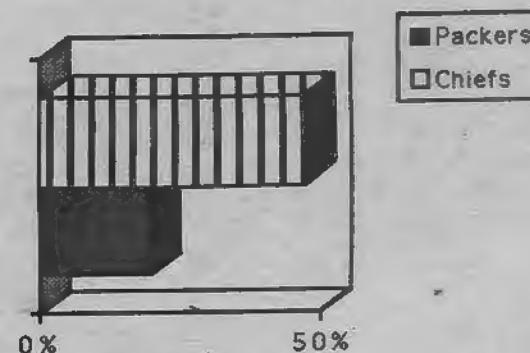
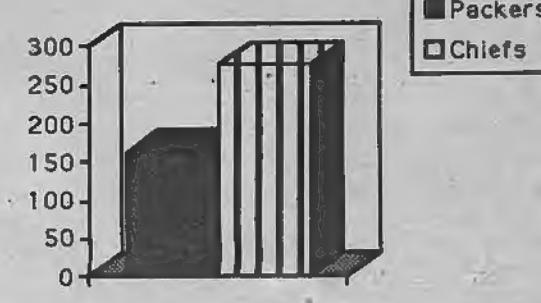
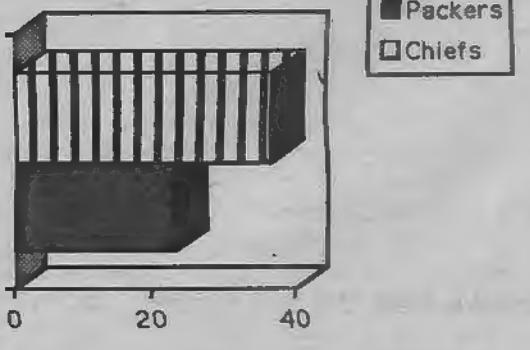
Green Bay Packers	0	0	7	14	21
Kansas City Chiefs	10	10	2	7	29
Chiefs, 1, 6:20, Lowery 26-yard field goal (18-72, 8:40) 3-0					
Chiefs, 1, 1:19, Williams 1-yard run (Lowery, kick) (8-37, 4:09) 10-0					
Chiefs, 2, 2:40, Barnett 17-yard pass from Blundin (Lowery, kick) (2-19, 0:46) 17-0					
Chiefs, 2, 0:09, Lowery 45-yard field goal (9-53, 1:14) 20-0					
Packers, 3, 11:12, McNabb 1-yard run (Jacke, kick) (8-66, 3:48) 20-7					
Chiefs, 3, 4:16, G. Koonce tackled by team for a safety, 22-7					
Chiefs, 4, 9:59, Turner 5-yard run (Lowery, kick) (13-72, 6:51) 29-7					
Packers, 4, 4:56, Beach 9-yard pass from Brunell (Jacke, kick) (11-85, 5:03) 29-14					
Packer, 4, 1:58, Lewis 22-yard pass from Brunell (Thompson, kick) (7-41, 0:40) 29-21					
Attendance: 51,655, Tickets Distributed 55,218, Unused 3,563, Time: 3:02					
Game Weather: Fair skies, temperature 66, humidity 75, wind N 9 mph					

FINAL TEAM STATISTICS

	Chiefs	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	22	17
By Rushing	7	2
By Passing	13	12
By Penalty	2	3
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	8-17-47%	2-10-20%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	2-2-100%	1-1-100%
TOTAL NET YARDS	379	214
Total Offensive Plays (inc. time thrown passing)	76	54
Average gain per offensive play	5.0	4.0
NET YARDS RUSHING	103	52
Total Rushing Plays	34	16
Average gain per rushing play	3.0	3.3
NET YARDS PASSING	276	162
Times thrown — yards lost attempting to pass	2-17	4-26
Gross yards passing	293	188
PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INT.	40-25-0	34-19-0
Average gain per pass play (inc. # thrown passing)	6.6	4.3
KICKOFFS-In End Zone-Touchbacks	6-1-1	5-0-0
PUNTS Number and Average	4-47.3	6-40.8
Had Blocked	0	0
FGs-PATs Had Blocked	0-0	0-0
TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs)	16	14
No. and Yards Punt Returns	3-16	3-14
No. and Yards Kickoff Returns	4-90	4-85
No. and Yards Interception Returns	0-0	0-0
PENALTIES Number and Yards	7-59	3-25
FUMBLES Number and Lost	4-2	4-2
TOUCHDOWNS	3	3
Rushing	2	1
Passing	1	2
DEFENSIVE/KICKING GAME	0-0	0-0
EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempts	3-3	3-3
FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts	2-4	0-0
SAFETIES	1	0
FINAL SCORE	29	21
TIME OF POSSESSION	36:56	23:04

GREEN BAY PACKERS

	Net	Long									
RUSHING	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Gain	TD						
Wilson	4	28	7.0	22	0						
Stephens	4	12	3.0	6	0						
Thompson	2	4	2.0	3	0						
Brunell	1	4	4.0	4	0						
Bennett	2	3	1.5	2	0						
McNabb	1	1	1.0	1	1						
Favre	2	0	0.0	0	0						
PASSING	Att.	Com.	Yds.	TKD	Yds.	TD	LG	Had			
Brunell	24	12	139	2	17	2	24	0			
Favre	10	7	49	2	9	0	11	0			
PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG	TD							
Beach	4	42	12	1							
Brooks	2	29	24	0							
Clayton	2	29	15	0							
McNabb	2	19	12	0							
Sharpe	2	18	11	0							
Chmura	2	13	7	0							
Lewis	1	22	22	1							
West	1	8	8	0							
Wilson	1	5	5	0							
Bennett	1	2	2	0							
Thompson	1	1	1	0							
PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG					
Wagner	6	245	40.8	1	0	55					
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	LG	TD						
Brooks	2	0	12	9	0						
Holland	1	0	2	2	0						
KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	LG	TD						
Holland	4	0	85	25	0						
Out of bounds	1	0	0	0	0						
Touchback	1	0	0	0	0						

Rushing Yards

3rd-Down Conversions

Passing Yards

Time of Possession

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

	Net	Yds.	Avg.	Long	Gain	TD	
RUSHING	Att.	Yds.					
Williams	12	37	3.1	15	1		
Anders	4	22	5.5	10	0		
Cobb	9	21	2.3	7	0		
Flagler	4	15	3.8	5	0		
Turner	4	8	2.0	5	1		
Blundin	1	0	0.0	0	0		

PASS RECEIVING

	No.	Yds.	LG	TD	
Williams	7	68	52	0	
Barnett	3	42	17	1	
Young	2	45	38	0	
Davis	2	30	18	0	
Dyal	2	27	15	0	
Hayes	2	23	14	0	
Anders	2	20	15	0	
Jackson	2	16	12	0	
Cash	1	10	10	0	
Hargain	1	7	7	0	
Cobb	1	5	5	0	

PUNTING

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	
Barker	4	189	47.3	0	1	51	

PUNT RETURNS</

Commentary

Wolf rips Pack's 'lack of urgency'

by Al Pahl
Managing Editor

MILWAUKEE — When the Packers eventually become the winners we all expect them to, two men who deserve to be at the head of the line when credit gets passed around are General Manager Ron Wolf and Head Coach Mike Holmgren.

After Saturday night's 29-21 loss to the Chiefs here, both could be found near the head of another line — the long line of people unhappy with the Packers' performance.

"Right now, I'm not happy about very much, to be honest," Holmgren said immediately after the game.

"Very bad," was Wolf's response when asked for his overall assessment during a fourth-quarter visit to the broadcast booth of the Packers' pre-season television network.

"We don't even look like a professional team," he said. "I imagine there are several high-school teams capable of executing better than we are, on both sides of the ball."

Lack of execution and emotion were Wolf's main themes. "Football is a game of emotion," he said. "It's a game of blocking and tackling. You have to come out and want to do those things."

Asked whether it's time to panic, the veteran football executive replied, "I certainly don't think so. It is time to realize we are playing professional football."

"Football is an elementary game. It's blocking, tackling. You have to want to do that. I question if we were really in the mood to do those things."

"There didn't appear to me to be a sense of urgency and I don't know why," Wolf said.

Holmgren appeared to provide conflicting views of his team's emotional level. Early in his post-game press conference he said, "For whatever reason, we came out a little flat in the first half."

Later, in response to a question asking if he thought his team was emotionally ready before the game, Holmgren replied, "I thought they were. You look at the first drive and try to analyze what happened. It was a play here and there. A guy slips here. We drop a ball there. It's just that we are not operating on all cylinders yet...I'm disappointed with our execution early in the game. We don't have time...we can't waste that much time before you get going."

Defensive Coordinator Ray Rhodes among the disgruntled

Defensive Coordinator Ray Rhodes was not a happy camper, either. "After tonight, I have a whole lot of concerns," he told the *Milwaukee Journal*. "What happened was we didn't come out ready to play, for whatever reason. That's my fault and my responsibility and I will get that taken care of."

"We missed tackles. We had assignment mistakes. It was just a shocking, shocking effort on our part. I'm very disappointed."

The team's play actually affected its development because Rhodes found himself unable to experiment. "We didn't execute," he said. "We didn't get some things done that I was hoping that we could. We wanted to look at a few things."

This won't prod Pack at negotiations

When play-by-play announcer Bill Jartz suggested that the patchwork offensive line may have been a factor, Wolf responded. "They don't have anything to do with it...We turned the ball over and gave them 10 points right off the bat. I don't believe that has anything to do with our offensive-line problems."

After the game, Holmgren was in agreement: "Those guys (linemen) have nothing to do with our inability to hand the ball to a back. We're thin up front and have some new guys, but they battled. They weren't the problem."

The holdouts of Ron Hallstrom and Ken Ruettgers are part of the thin condition of the offensive line. The holdouts of defensive end Matt Brock (who was reported to be at the Packer hotel Saturday and expected to sign Sunday) and outside linebacker Tony Bennett are not positives for the defense.

But when Jartz questioned if this game might prod the Packers at the negotiating table, Wolf replied. "I don't believe we should step up the pace of negotiations. There are two sides involved. Both have to be willing to negotiate. In some instances, that isn't the case."

The first-team offense has yet to score after playing basically the first half of two games. "We miss-handled the ball and fumbled, which are really things you expect of the second or third units," Wolf pointed out.

"We can't continue with our first unit to turn the ball over and have shoddy handoffs...There were some things out there that we should have taken care of on the second or third day of training camp."

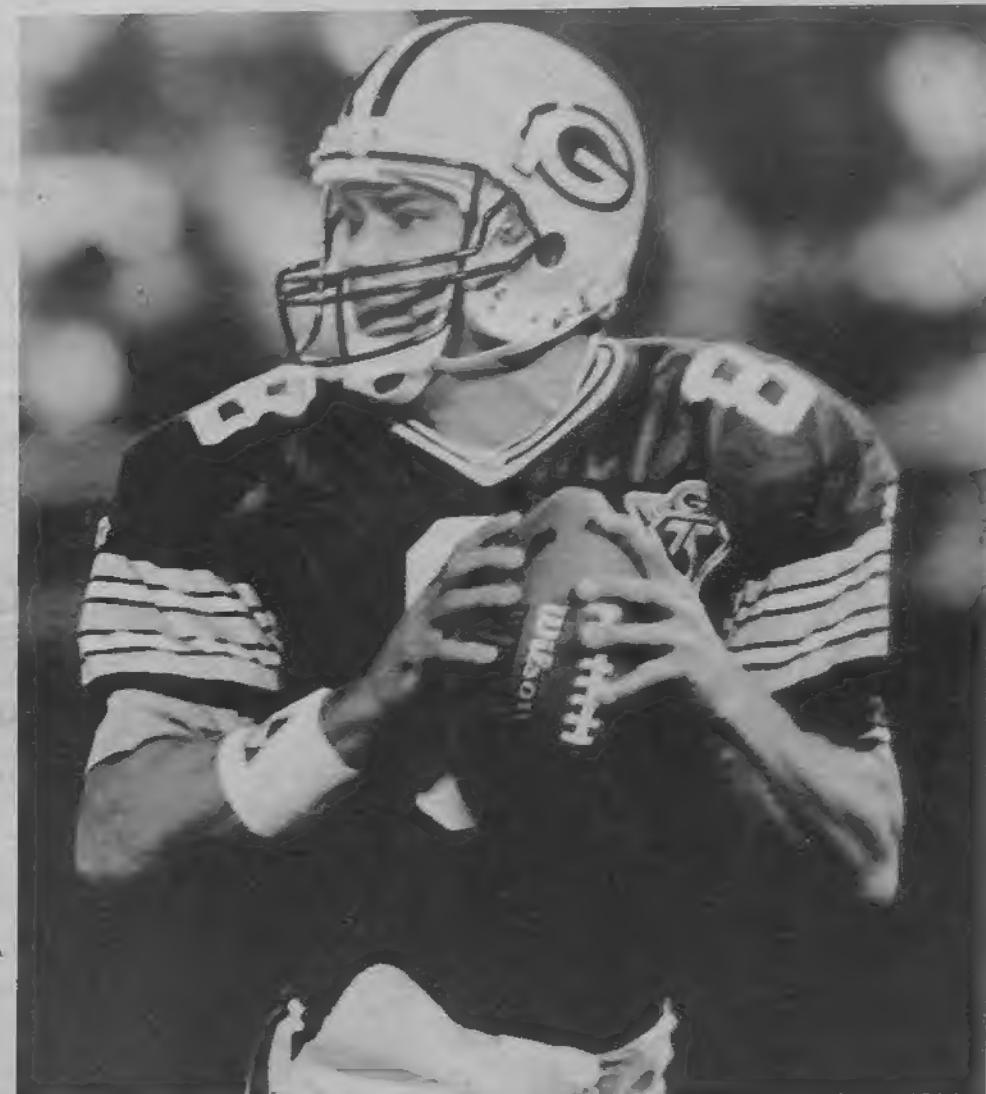
Holmgren was at something of a loss to explain the abundance of fundamental errors.

The fact his first unit hasn't scored yet is actually a secondary problem. "I don't worry too much about that in the pre-season, to be honest," Holmgren said. "I want to see execution. I worry about touchdowns after we execute handing the ball to somebody — that's step one."

Wolf was also concerned about the running game and the play of the first-team defense. "There didn't appear to be a sense of urgency on either of our first units," he reiterated.

There were a couple of positives

There were a couple of positives in Wolf's eyes: "Our young offensive linemen who are out here the whole second half have done a pretty credible job," said Wolf, before addressing the play of rookie quarterback Mark Brunell: "Brunell looks very promising, as he has in practices. Mark Clayton is a big-time player. You



The second-half performance of fifth-round draft choice quarterback Mark Brunell was one of the Packers' few bright spots Saturday night.

— Vernon J. Biever photo

can see that. Whenever he comes on the field, something happens.

"Mark Brunell did a wonderful job. That was encouraging to me."

Brunell's play was a highlight. When the rookie entered the game, Green Bay trailed, 20-0. He started the third quarter with a six-play drive that ended in Green Bay's first 1993 touchdown.

"We were behind," Holmgren noted. "He moved the football. Somehow, some way he moved the football. He did a nice job. He made some mistakes, of course. He missed a couple guys, but on the whole, he moved the team and that's the quarterback's job. Brett Favre didn't move the team today."

Holmgren was also pleased with "the spirit of the guys who played the second half. "You're going to be behind in a game. You're going to have games like tonight. And then I think it's a measure of a team to see how they react to situations like that. I think they battled in the second half and that was a positive."

Brunell admitted that, "When you go in behind, there's a lot of pressure on you. Especially after the first half, there was a lot of pressure on the offense...we just had to turn things around."

Brunell: Defenders are "twice as big"

Asked to compare his NFL debut to college, Brunell's immediate response was, "The guys coming at me were twice as big...It's a whole different atmosphere. There is more at stake. It's really intense."

Pressed to compare the Chiefs' defense to college defenses, he smirked, indicating there is no comparison. "It's just a whole different level," Brunell said. "They hit hard and they fly to the ball. They are very impressive. Even their second- and third-team guys were flying to the ball. They are a good team."

"I think I learned a lot. I learned I have

a long way to go. I have to improve on my signal calling and getting the plays in, but for the first time (out there), I'm kind of happy."

"I think I made some good plays," Brunell said. "I think I also made a lot of mistakes. You never want to be satisfied. You always want to keep getting better and better. But I'm just glad to finally get my feet wet."

"I made a lot of mental mistakes; calling plays wrong and a few little things I have to work on. But I think as time goes, I'll hopefully get those bugs out."

He looked pretty poised out there. "I was pretty happy I stayed pretty relaxed and our receivers made some great plays, which helped out," he said. "I think it was a real good group effort. We got together and started moving the ball."

On his sixth play he looked particularly poised to this reporter. He had already hit Clayton with two of his four completions to that point, when he looked for the veteran on the left side of the end zone on this play. With men around Clayton, Brunell appeared to throw the ball just out of his reach — it appeared he was throwing the ball away, but doing so unobtrusively and definitely keeping the pass too deep for the defense to catch up with.

But things are not always as they appear. "I was trying to get it to him," Brunell explained. "We had audibled at the line on that play. He kind of got bumped on the line. It was really just a fade route. I waited on him a little bit and then threw it a little bit too much. Fortunately we got a penalty on that play and got an opportunity to score."

Which they did on the next play.

Overall, the rookie remains optimistic. "We can all learn from this," Brunell said. "I think we will have a good week of practice and you can bet that next week we are going to come out and look like a much better team."

Packer fans can only hope.

George Teague

'Glue' sticking to the playbook

Training camp 1993 was in its infancy on a sunny morning in late July. Just inside the practice-field fence, General Manager Ron Wolf was being interviewed about the "State of the Team" by a veteran Chicago sportswriter following practice.

As No. 31 walked by, Wolf paused in mid-sentence and, pointing out the player, informed, "That guy is going to make or break our season."

"That guy," of course, is George Teague, the Packers' second selection in the first round of this year's draft — a selection Wolf made possible by shrewdly trading up with the Cowboys.

Shrewdly, it might be added, is the appropriate word because, had he waited just two more picks to make the move, Teague would have been gone (the Patriots, it later became known, were poised to take him with the second selection in the second round).

If the responsibility — and presumably, pressure — which customarily accompany such a resounding vote of confidence have given Teague anything resembling pause since, it is not apparent.

LEE REMMEL



If anything, he seems to welcome it.

Reminded Wolf had predicted at draft time that he would be a "full-time starter somewhere on the defense by mid-season," the star of the University of Alabama's January Sugar-Bowl win made no attempt to downplay that possibility.

"I think I have a good chance," he said during a recent lunch-hour respite. "I'm getting better and better every day. With the coaches' and players' help, I can't see any reason why I shouldn't be on the field by mid-season, if all goes well."

"I'm glad Ron had that much confidence in me. I have enough confidence in myself that I should be on the field...I'll be disappointed in myself if I'm not."

Learning two spots is tough

As assured as he is, Teague was not suggesting his introduction to pro ball has been the proverbial "piece of cake" — in large part because he is being required to learn two positions, cornerback and free safety.

"It's been kind of difficult when you first start trying to learn two positions," he said. "(But) after being narrowed down to corner for now, that helps a lot."

"I've been told they want me to work at corner, but still learn the book at free safety — just in case I'm needed."

The fact he played both positions in college has been a boon, Teague indicated.

ed. "My first two years, I played corner. Junior year I played free safety and senior year, I played both. That helps me some."

Teague's impressive versatility moved Wolf to note, "George is a unique guy to be as young as he is and to have done all the things he did at Alabama. He's going to do those same things here."

Despite his varied experience, however, George still is finding it a major challenge — practicing at one position and simultaneously trying to learn the other without benefit of practice-field work.

"I think that's what makes it difficult to concentrate on 'free' because I don't get any reps on the field," Teague observed. "In practice, I'm only working at corner...And when I'm playing corner, I have to think of what the free safety is doing, and that makes it tough."

George also has a heavier study burden than his colleagues "simply because I have to learn two positions. I have to put in more time. After I have gone over what I have to do at corner, I have to study what the free safety does."

"Then," he added with a wry smile, "I get confused about which is where."

Fortunately, there is considerable assistance at hand — from veteran defensive backfield Coach Dick Jauron and from the other defensive backs.

There's a lot of help at hand

"Coach Jauron has been a factor in my performance," Teague confided. "He coaches me very well in what I need to do and what I need to change...It's a good feeling to have a coach who doesn't fuss or holler — he just coaches."

There also has been counsel from one of his rivals for free-safety employment, among others, he informed.

"Tim Hauck helps a lot — and LeRoy Butler...and Roland Mitchell helps with the corner, and (Terrell) Buckley, too."

"A lot of it's on the sideline. But, for instance, Roland and LeRoy speak to me off the field, like when we're eating...They give me a lot of good help."

If he has a preference, Teague is keeping it to himself. "For me, coming in my first year, free safety or corner — it doesn't matter," he said. "My goal is win a starting position and I'm not too choosy about where...It doesn't matter."

Wolf, addressing this, said, "The great thing about George is he can play anywhere in the secondary (and) has tremendous ability to run the field. Everyone else told me he could play corner but I was skeptical. Then I saw him run."

Though both bright and talented — he was an academic all-state selection in high school and on the dean's list at Alabama as a freshman — George admits he has found the jump from college to the professional level demanding.

"Some of it (defensive approach) was the same as I'd had," George informed. "It's just the (different) terminology, the extent that they have to take the coverages here — that's what makes it hard. When I first got in, all the different calls you had to make and the formations you had to recognize — that made it tough."

Speaking of the defense, Teague likes what he sees.

"I feel confident (about its quality)," he said. "I came from a strong defense at Alabama and, being a defensive back, it always helps to know I have a strong line in front of me (Reggie White and Bill



First-round draft pick George Teague admits he has his hands full learning two positions in the secondary, but that doesn't mean there's not time for a wink and a joke on the bench.

— Vernon J. Biever photo

Maas, to name two). And the defensive backs we have all have years of experience. I'm in a good situation here."

Sugar Bowl helped his stock

Possessor of one of the teams' more descriptive nicknames, "Mr. Glue," (his license plates are: "GLUE") George confides with a somewhat sheepish smile, "I got that freshman year, from our defensive coordinator. I was having some very good days in one-on-one. As he put it, I was sticking to the receivers so well he gave me that name — and it stuck."

Teague, whose pre-draft stock soared following his standout Sugar-Bowl performance, acknowledges it did not come about by mere chance.

"My coaches talked to us about it. They said we could really help ourselves in that game. One, it was for the national championship; and, two, every scout in the world was going to be there. It was a chance to do something for ourselves. I was glad I had a good game."

"Good," at the least, it was. The opportunistic Flint, MI., native intercepted two passes, one of which he returned for a touchdown. But what perhaps brought him the most national attention was a play that was called back — one on which he chased down Hurricane receiver Lamar Thomas from behind and stripped the ball.

Teague, the first Crimson Tide athlete ever drafted in the first round by the Packers, is well aware of the school's most distinguished contribution to the Green 'n' Gold, the legendary Bart Starr.

"There are a lot of reminders about that in Alabama," he quickly affirmed. "At sporting events, Bear Bryant and Bart Starr are those you hear about."

"I had a chance to meet Bart Starr when he was here in Green Bay for the 'Fantasy Football' camp in June."

George now makes his home in Montgomery, Alabama's state capital, after spending his early years on the move.

"With my dad in the Air Force, we moved quite a bit," he explained. "We

moved to Montgomery when I was in ninth grade and stayed there through college, so that's what I call home."

Wife, newborn son will soon be here

That also is where his wife, Consuela, and newborn son, James Theo Teague, are currently located — but not, he is happy to report, for long.

"They're coming up Aug. 21 to stay for the season," he said, adding with fervor, "Man, I'm putting X's on the calendar, counting down. I miss both of 'em."

Asked if he is getting regular updates on the progress of James Theo, who was born in mid-July, George beamed and replied, "As a matter of fact, every night. He's doing good. He's big. We had a little problem with him eating at first, but now we can't stop him."

Once this season is behind him, Teague plans to return to the Alabama campus. "I still have a year to graduate in accounting," he explained. "It won't take long."

"My long-term wish is to get one in electrical engineering. I've already put in two years in engineering. (But) it was pretty hard to maintain my grades and play ball, so I switched to accounting junior year."

For the present, however, Teague is devoting all of his attention and energies to another educational process — simultaneously learning the intricacies of cornerback and free safety.

If his debut in the pre-season opener is any indication, he is making substantial strides toward that objective.

Teague, playing cornerback in the first half and free safety in the second, registered five tackles to share game honors for the defense with linebacker Brett Collins and also had one pass defensed.

On the basis of what he saw in that baptism, Wolf is inclined to move up his original timetable.

"If George keeps playing like he did at Canton," the executive vice president said, "he will be in the starting lineup before the pre-season is over."

Dear Diary

Player moves highlight week

Monday, Aug. 2

The Packers seem to shape up and fall in a bit, two days after their 19-3 nationally televised loss to the Raiders. "We just had to emphasize a few things we were unhappy with and I don't want to see them in practice," Coach Mike Holmgren says. "The players have to know that."

One of the things he was most unhappy with in Canton was dropped passes. "That's a matter of concentration, as I told the team," he explains. "We dropped one

AL PAHL



pass all day today. One. Now, what's the difference between a game and practice? It's just concentration. Whether you're excited or the sun was in your eyes or whatever the reason you want to give me, it's probably valid, but it's not acceptable.

"We will get better," Holmgren declares. "A game like that where they drop so many balls should not happen again."

Tuesday, Aug. 3

Starting center Jim Campen undergoes surgery to explore and repair the injury to his left shoulder's rotator cuff. Campen was injured lifting weights July 23.

The surgery goes well — doctors clean out the shoulder joint and find no rotator cuff damage.

He is expected to miss four to six weeks, during which time the starter will be Frank Winters. "It's pretty much the same situation as happened last year," says Winters, who started three games a year ago when Campen strained knee ligaments. "Coach always talks about 'You have to be ready to step up. You have to be ready in one play to go in.' So you have to be ready."

Winters was ready for Saturday's exhibition opener — he played the entire game at center because No. 3 center Tom Neville was lost for the season when he tore an Achilles tendon during pre-game warmups.

There is only one other center on the roster, Terry Beauford, a seventh-round 1991 San Diego draft choice who spent all of that year on injured reserve and most of last season on the Packers' practice squad. He is listed solely as a guard, but has been practicing at center the past 10 days or so.

"The last couple days, it's been pretty tough" in terms of endurance, Winters says. "We've been hurt inside with James and Tom going down. We are pretty short but we have to stick together and work with what we have."



The man who started it all — Nose tackle Bill Maas (77), here being blocked by former teammate Tim Grunhard, was the first unrestricted free agent signed by the Packers, who were forced by injuries to continue shuffling linemen last week.

— James V. Blever photo

the starting right tackle because veteran Tunch Ilkin is starting at left tackle in place of Ruettgers.

All of which gives Holmgren some pause, when contemplating possible injuries to his franchise quarterback, Brett Favre.

"I think about it, certainly," the coach says. "But he has to play. He's going to play. My play selection might reflect some of my concern. But we have to find out things about our offensive linemen, too. I'll be well aware of our opponent and who's matched up against who."

The team's good injury news Tuesday was the continued rehabilitation of linebacker Johnny Holland, who had cervical fusion surgery in January. "He's making progress," Holmgren says. "It's just a matter of getting a definitive timetable, I think. The doctors and medical people are reluctant to do that at this point, but he is doing a little more every day. We are taking a very steady but conservative approach to it. I would hope to see Johnny in uniform in a couple of weeks."

Tackle Earl Dotson twisted his right knee and had it iced near the end of morning practice.

Wednesday, Aug. 4

The Packers are thin in the offensive line but their current starting right tackle's shoulder injury is a little bit better and they may be close to re-signing their 1992 starting right tackle.

The latter is Tootie Robbins, who again finds himself an unrestricted free agent. Robbins was traded to the Packers

in January, 1992 and started 15 of last season's 16 games without surrendering a sack. Under the new free agency program, he went to the Saints this past off-season, pocketing a \$500,000 signing bonus for doing so, but was released Tuesday.

"Tootie would love to go back to Green Bay, it's our No. 1 choice," agent Harold Lewis is quoted as saying in the Wednesday *Green Bay Press-Gazette*. "The Packers have already made an offer. It could get done as soon as (Wednesday). He wants to be there."

Packer Director of Pro Personnel Jesse Kaye says Robbins was discussed internally Tuesday, as is any available player the team may be interested in. Asked what the conclusion of that discussion was, he replies, "I don't think there was one."

Told of Lewis' newspaper comments, Kaye says it was news to him that the Packers had made Robbins an offer.

A voice-mail message for Packer Chief Financial Officer Mike Reinfeldt goes unreturned Wednesday afternoon. No one answers Lewis' phone.

"We're going to talk to Tootie, see how he is physically and see if he wants to continue to play," Holmgren says between practices Wednesday. "If all those things fit, then I would say there's a good chance" the Packers would sign him.

Continued on page 19

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Family Spotlight

Kenneth Shawn Patterson

Sixth-year defensive end
Drafted on the second round, 1988

Born - June 13, 1964 in Hawaii
College - Biomechanics major, Arizona State.

Family - My wife, Jackie. We were married Feb. 20. She is 15 weeks pregnant. The last book I read was - The Firm
A movie I'd recommend to my friends is - Jurassic Park.

My favorite hobbies are - Sprint clay shooting, hunting, watching my two "new" brothers play sports. Spending time with Jackie.

The things I like best about football - It's challenging, combining intelligence, strength, endurance and God-given ability. Not to mention, you get to hit people.

The things I like best to do with my family - Play all kinds of sports. Jackie's family is great. The only family I have in Wisconsin is hers, so I do everything with them.

I would describe my wife as - The most giving and supportive person I have ever met. Through good times and bad, she has always been herself and always been there for me. She will always be concerned about someone else before herself.

I would describe myself as - Rough around the edges. Needs a little work, but still worth keeping.

My favorite piece of advice to give to people is - No one will ever do or say anything to you that doesn't totally reflect how they feel about themselves.

The most influential people in my life are - My parents, who have done so much for me. They have shown me guidance, what is important in life and most importantly, a strong faith in the Lord. They didn't always do what was easiest, but what was right.

My greatest personal accomplishment outside of football - The best thing I will ever do will happen on or around Jan. 27, 1994. That is when Jackie and I are expecting our first child.

If I could live in another period of history, it would be - The "Wild West." The little kid in me would love to spend every day catching the bad guys, bringing in a herd and riding the open range.

Who is/was the world's greatest leader and why - Jesus. He is the only one.

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Like all NFL players, Shawn Patterson wants to go to the Super Bowl. A trip in 1994 would make a busy end to the month - he and wife Jackie are expecting their first baby along about Super Bowl Time.

- James V. Biever photo

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Last week was busy in personnel department

The Packers waived defensive linemen George Bethune and Troy Ridgley (who had been signed just one day earlier) and signed defensive lineman George Rooks Aug. 3.

Rooks is a 6-foot-3 1/2, 275-pounder who was a 10th-round draft pick of the Giants a year ago but spent all of last season on injured reserve or the practice squad. New York waived him recently.

Center Paul Long, guard Dan Fike and wide receiver Shawn Collins signed with the Packers Aug. 4.

Long is an undrafted rookie out of Ohio State. The 6-3, 282-pounder had been with the Seahawks from a few days after the draft until being released a few days before training camp began.

"We're hoping he can play a little bit right away," said Coach Mike Holmgren, who started No. 2 center Frank Winters for the second straight game Saturday and

will continue to do so until incumbent Jim Campen returns. Holmgren hopes that'll occur the first game of the regular season.

Collins, 26, was a first-round draft pick of the Falcons in 1989, catching a team rookie-record 58 passes that season. He caught 34 in 1990 but injuries have limited him to six catches over 12 game appearances the past two seasons.

He spent 1992 with the Browns after being traded from Atlanta Sept. 11, 1992 for a future draft choice. He missed the final three games of the season due to a rib ailment. Cleveland released him recently.

At 6-2, 207, Collins is the Packers' tallest receiver and only 6-1 Pro Bowler Sterling Sharpe, listed at 210, is heavier.

"He's a big, strong, physical wide receiver," Holmgren said. "He's a big man. I remember him coming out of college. He was kind of a 'tweener; small for a tight end, big for a wide receiver. He's got good speed for a man his size. Hopefully, he can find a home here. I've

always liked Shawn."

Referring to the fact Atlanta draft Collins, Holmgren pointed out: "They have their little run 'n' shoot receivers. Our receivers we like a little bit different. We need a little more size and he fits the bill."

Fike came from Cleveland, in exchange for a sixth-round 1994 draft pick.

The 32-year-old ninth-year player was listed as a guard/tackle by the Browns and has started in every offensive-line position except center. "I think he's played every position but center," Holmgren said. "He gives us some versatility in there. He's an established player who's done a good job in the League for a long time.

"I would suspect he'll start out as an inside player; a guard or a center perhaps. But I don't know. Don't be surprised...he won't line up at quarterback, that's all I know."

Fike, 6-foot-7, 285 pounds, started 32 straight games (all but two at right tackle)

and 102 of a possible 112 in eight seasons with the Browns.

The Packers waived wide receiver Chris Holder, cornerback Tracey Smith and punter Matt Turk.

They currently have 80 players on their roster, including injured linebacker Johnny Holland, who does count against the limit. He is on the physically unable to perform list. If he were on the reserve/physically unable to perform list, then he would not be counted against the 80.

Campen, Neville out

Major injuries, which tend to be included in the Camp Diary on Page 7, include: Jim Campen, arthroscopic shoulder surgery, expected to return approximately the first week of the regular season, guard/center Tom Neville, surgery for Achilles tear, expected to be out the entire season.

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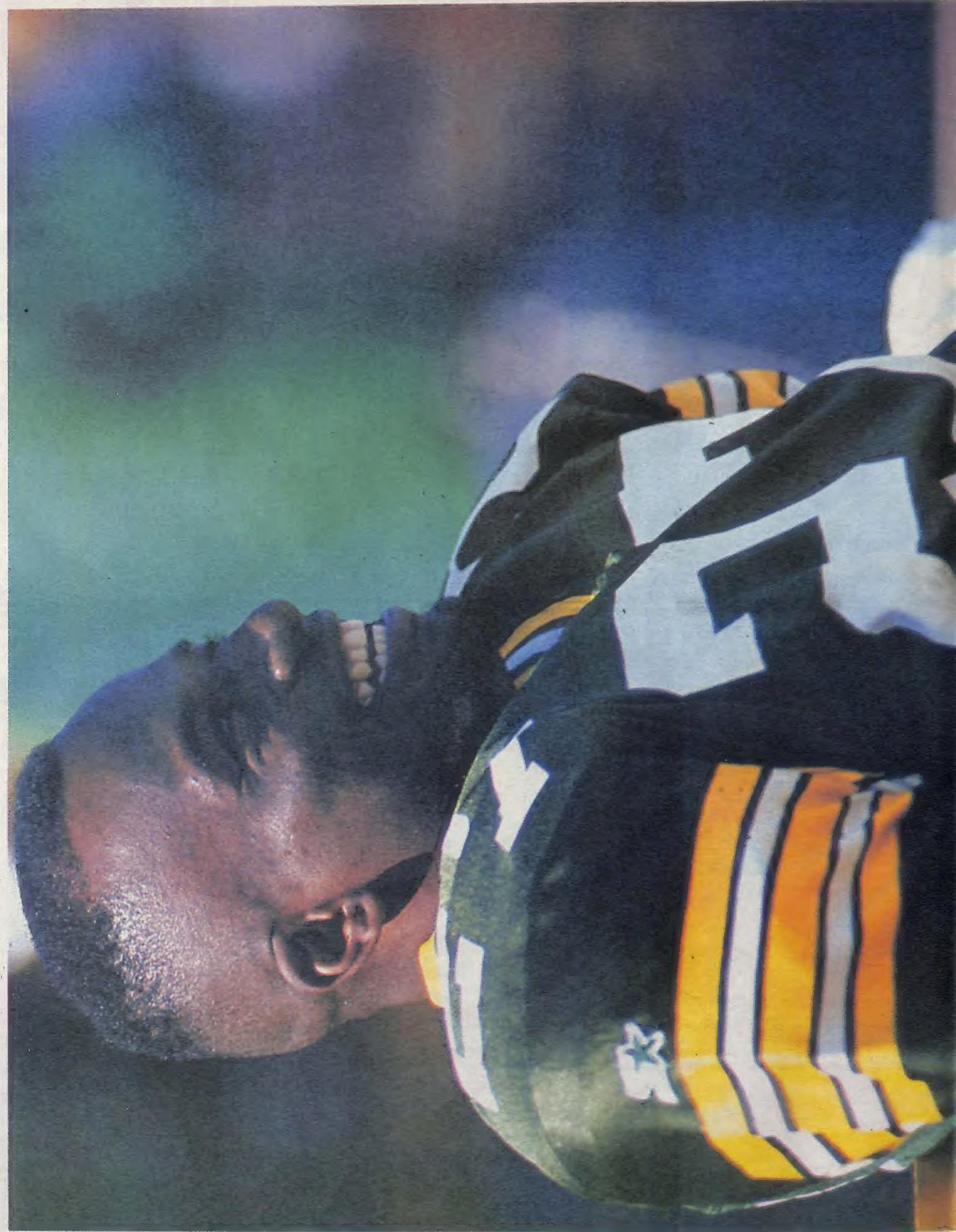
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6	Tommy Barnhardt	P	6-2	207	30	7	North Carolina	FA-89
7	Morten Andersen	K	6-2	221	33	12	Michigan St.	D4-82
9	Rich Andrews	K	5-10	160	24	1	Florida St.	FA-93
10	Mike Stiggo	P	6-2	191	23	R	Nebraska	FA-93
12	Kevin Verdugo	QB	6-3	211	24	1	Colorado St.	FA-93
13	J.J. McClesky	WR	5-7	177	23	R	Tennessee	FA-93
15	Fernando Evans	WR	6-1	188	23	R	Alcorn St.	FA-93
16	Mike Buck	QB	6-3	227	26	4	Maine	D6a-90
17	Tre Everett	WR	5-10	172	23	R	Florida	FA-93
18	Wade Wilson	QB	6-3	206	34	13	East Texas St.	UFA-93 (Alt)
19	Marcus Dowdall	WR	5-10	179	23	1	Tennessee St.	D10-92
21	Dalton Hilliard	RB	5-8	204	29	8	LSU	D2-86
22	Brad Muster	FB	6-4	235	28	6	Stanford	UFA-93 (Chi)
23	Lorenzo Neal	FB	5-10	228	22	R	Fresno St.	D4a-93
24	Derek Brown	RB	5-9	186	22	R	Nebraska	D4b-93
25	Fred McAfee	RB	5-10	195	25	3	Mississippi College	D6-91
26	Vince Buck	CB	6-0	198	25	4	Central St. (Oh.)	D2-90
27	Reginald Jones	CB	6-1	202	24	3	Memphis St.	D5-91
28	Gene Atkins	FS	6-1	200	28	7	Florida A&M	D7-87
29	Keith Taylor	S	5-11	206	28	5	Illinois	PB-92 (Ind)
30	Gill Fenerty	RB	6-0	205	30	3	Holy Cross	D7-86
32	Vaughn Dunbar	RB	5-10	204	24	2	Indiana	D1-92
33	Tyrone Hughes	CB	5-9	175	23	R	Nebraska	D5-93
35	Shane Pahukoa	S	6-2	202	22	R	Washington	FA-93
36	Derrick Ned	RB	6-1	210	24	1	Grambling St.	FA-92
37	Jimmy Spencer	CB	5-9	180	24	2	Florida	FA-92
38	Othello Henderson	S	6-0	192	21	R	UCLA	D7-93
39	Brett Maxie	S	6-2	194	31	9	Texas Southern	FA-85
40	George Coghill	S	6-2	196	23	R	Wake Forest	FA-93
41	To Cook	CB	5-11	188	28	7	Stanford	D8-87
42	Sammy Martin	WR	5-11	182	28	5	LSU	FA-93
43	Tyrone Legote	CB	5-9	177	23	2	Nebraska	D3-92
45	Israel Byrd	CB	5-11	184	22	R	Utah St.	FA-93
46	Sean Lumpkin	S	6-0	206	23	2	Minnesota	D4b-92
47	Cedric Mack	CB	5-11	190	32	11	Baylor	FA-92
48	Ronnie Williams	TE	6-4	260	27	2	Oklahoma St.	FA-93
49	Tommie Stowers	TE	6-3	240	26	2	Missouri	FA-92
50	Pete Shufelt	LB	6-2	241	23	R	Texas-El Paso	FA-93
51	Sam Mills	LB	5-9	225	34	8	Montclair St.	FA-86
52	Tom McManus	LB	6-2	236	23	R	Boston College	FA-93
53	Vaughn Johnson	LB	6-3	240	31	8	N. Carolina St.	D1Sup-84
54	Eric Blount	LB	5-11	234	23	R	Houston	FA-93
55	Reggie Freeman	LB	6-1	233	23	R	Florida St.	D2-93
57	Rickey Jackson	LB	6-2	243	35	13	Pittsburgh	D2-81
60	Derek Kennard	G	6-3	300	30	8	Nevada-Reno	Tr-91
61	Joel Hiltgenberg	C/G	6-2	252	31	10	Iowa	D4-84
62	Brad Leggett	C	6-4	270	27	2	USC	FA-93
63	Kari Dunbar	DE	6-4	275	26	2	LSU	FA-92
64	Mike Brennan	G/T	6-5	285	26	3	Notre Dame	FA-93
65	Jon Hohenreich	G	6-5	290	24	1	Northeast La.	FA-93
68	Paul Jetton	C/G	6-4	288	28	6	Texas	FA-92
69	Les Miller	DE/NT	6-7	285	28	7	Ft. Hays St. (Kan.)	PB-91 (SD)
70	Chris Port	G/T	6-5	290	25	3	Duke	D12-90
71	Richard Cooper	T	6-5	290	28	4	Tennessee	FA-89
72	Jim Dombrowski	G/T	6-5	298	29	8	Virginia	D1-86
73	Frank Warren	DE	6-4	290	32	12	Auburn	D3-81
74	Scott Bowles	G/T	6-5	280	25	3	North Texas St.	FA-93
75	Rick Dolly	DE	6-4	259	23	R	West Virginia	FA-93
76	Gene McGuire	C	6-2	284	23	2	Notre Dame	D4a-92
77	William Roaf	T	6-4	299	23	R	Louisiana Tech	D1a-93
78	Tom Backes	G	6-4	273	25	1	Oklahoma	FA-93
79	Royce Nelson	G	6-4	315	23	R	Nicholls St.	FA-93
80	Wesley Carroll	WR	6-0	183	25	3	Miami (Fla.)	D2-91
82	Irv Smith	TE	6-3	246	21	R	Notre Dame	D1b-93
83	Torrance Small	WR	6-3	201	22	2	Alcorn St.	D5-92
84	Eric Martin	WR	6-1	207	31	9	LSU	D7-85
85	Hooby Brenner	TE	6-5	245	34	13	USC	D3b-81
86	Patrick Newman	WR	5-11	189	24	4	Utah St.	FA-92
87	Frank Wainright	TE	6-3	245	25	3	N. Colorado	D8-91
88	Floyd Turner	WR	5-11	188	27	5	Northwestern La.	D6-89
89	Quinn Early	WR	6-0	190	28	6	Iowa	PB-91 (SD)
90	James Williams	LB	6-0	230	24	4	Mississippi St.	D6b-90
91	Robert Goff	DE/NT	6-3	270	27	6	Auburn	Tr-90
92	DeMont Winston	LB	6-2	239	23	4	Vanderbilt	D4-90
93	Wayne Martin	DE	6-5	275	27	5	Arkansas	D1-89
94	Jim Wilks	DE/NT	6-5	275	35	13	San Diego St.	D12-81
95	Ronnie Dixon	NT	6-2	292	22	R	Cincinnati	D6-93
96	Lamar Sally	DE	6-4	271	23	R	Central Michigan	FA-93
97	Renaldo Turnbull	LB	6-4	250	27	4	West Virginia	D1-90
98	Jon Kirksey	NT	6-3	360	23	R	CSU-Sacramento	D8-93
99	Joel Smeenge	LB	6-5	250	25	4	W. Michigan	D3-90

Brock expected to sign

MILWAUKEE — The Packers are expected to have signed defensive end Matt Brock by the time you read this.

It looked like Tootie Robbins was on his way in too. Ron Hallstrom, perhaps not.

Brock was at the team's hotel here Saturday and reported to be on his way to Green Bay to sign Sunday.

General Manager Ron Wolf said Brock hasn't lost his starting job, although Shawn Patterson has played very well.

Harold Lewis is the agent for both Hallstrom and Robbins. He said Robbins has told him to forget about talking with other teams and negotiate a deal with the Packers. It's been predicted that might be wrapped up by Aug. 9.

Hallstrom is believed to have been offered a one-year deal with a \$750,000 base, plus minimal incentives. He wants a playing-time incentive in the \$1 million range.

Wolf said Saturday Green Bay has let Hallstrom know the club wouldn't increase its offer. Lewis hinted to the Milwaukee Journal the team had reduced its offer.

Packers

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Exp.	College	How Acquired
4	Brett Favre	QB	6-2	218	23	3	Southern Mississippi	T-92 (Alt)
7	Ken O'Brien	QB	6-4	212	32	11	California-Davis	T-93 (NYJ)
8	Mark Brunell	QB	6-1	208	22	R	Washington	D5a-93
9	Bryan Wagner	P	6-2	200	31	7	Cal State-Northridge	FA-92
11	Ty Detmer	QB	6-0	190	25	1	Brigham Young	D9a-92
13	Chris Jacke	K	6-0	200	27	5	Texas-El Paso	
18	Rich Thompson	K	6-0	203	23	R	Wisconsin	FA-93
20	Robert Wilson	FB	6-0	241	24	2	Texas A&M	FA-93
21	Carl Carter	CB	5-11	190	28	8	Texas Tech	FA-92
22	Tracey Sanders	CB	6-					

WHEN THE PACKERS HAVE THE BALL

WHEN THE SAINTS HAVE THE BALL

RCB 27 Jones 37 Spencer 43 Lagatta 33 Hughes	FS 20 Atkins 46 Lumpkin 38 Henderson 35 Pahukoa	SS 39 Maxie 29 Taylor 40 Coghill	LCB 41 Cook 28 Buck 47 Mack 45 Byrd	RCB 47 Mitchell 30 Harris 22 Sanders	FS 45 Prior 24 Hauck 31 Teague	SS 36 Butler 21 Carter 25 Watson	LCB 27 Buckley 31 Teague 33 Evans
ROLB 97 Turnbull 99 Smeenge 54 Blount	RILB 53 Johnson 90 Williams 52 McManus	LILB 51 Mills 92 Winston 50 Shufelt	LOLB 57 Jackson 55 Freeman	ROLB 95 Paup 49 Crews	RILB 53 Koonce 56 Willis 55 Collins	LILB 91 Noble 54 Randle 48 Smith	LOLB 59 Simmons 51 Brady 49 Crews
RE 73 Warren 91 Goff 96 Sally	NT 84 Wilks 69 Miller 95 Dixon 98 Kirksey	LE 93 Martin 63 Dunbar 75 Dolly		RE 96 Patterson 99 Davey 69 Showell 97 Rooks	NT 77 Maes 64 Jurkovic 70 Grant	LE 92 White 78 Barrie 94 Kuberski 98 Oglesby	
WR 87 Brooks 85 Lewis 37 Clayton 40 Holland 41 Milling	LT 79 Ikin 71 Gray 67 Hutchins 73 Graves	LG 57 Moran 74 Hall 69 Fike	C 52 Winters 60 Beauford 58 Long 63 Campen 61 Neville	RG 76 Galbreath 60 Beauford 74 Hall	RT 68 Sims 72 Dotson 73 Graves	TE 80 Harris 86 West 88 Ingram 89 Chmura 43 Anderson	WR 84 Martin 88 Turner 83 Small 86 Newman 42 Martin 17 Everett
QB 4 Favre 7 O'Brien 11 Detmer 8 Brunell	FB 34 Bennett 44 McNabb 42 Lasley 20 Wilson	WR 84 Sharpe 82 Beach 83 McKay 26 Crawford 38 Collins		QB 18 Buck 4 Walsh 18 Wilson 12 Verdugo	FB 25 McAfee 32 Dunbar 21 Hilliard	WR 24 Brown 30 Fenerty	QB 89 Early 80 Carroll 19 Dowdell 13 McClellan 15 Evans
RB 39 Thompson 29 Wilson 46 Pinkett 32 Stephens 35 Berry				RB 71 Cooper 74 Bowles	FB 72 Dombrowski 70 Port 68 Jetton	WR 61 Hilgenberg 78 McGuire 62 Leggett	QB 80 Kennard 78 Backes 79 Nelson
				RB 22 Muster 23 Neal 36 Ned			RB 77 Roaf 84 Brennan

Can the Saints win in January?

Once a team gets a label of being a "choker," it is hard to overcome.

Such is the case in New Orleans where the 1992 Saints marched out of the playoffs for the fourth straight time as quickly as they entered them.

Last year's loss was perhaps the toughest for fans to absorb as the Saints blew a 20-6 lead late in the third quarter and collapsed in an NFC Wild Card game against Philadelphia.

In particular, the playoff frustrations have negated outstanding seasons by the Saints and cast a huge shadow over the program that will continue to linger until they prove they can win a post-season contest.

As the Saints entered "Cheese League" training camp in La Crosse recently, their mission was to begin a quest that will eventually lead them to yet another playoff opportunity.

However, this season several old faces have disappeared, and whether the new ones will be up to the task of replacing them remains to be seen.

Gone offensively are quarterback Bobby Hebert, fullback Craig "Ironhead" Hayward, tackle Stan Brock and guard Steve Trapilo. Defensively, pass rushing outside linebacker Pat Swilling was swapped to the Lions.

Newcomers offensively are Atlanta quarterback Wade Wilson and Chicago fullback Brad Muster and a pair of No. 1 draft choices, Louisiana Tech tackle Willie Roaf and Notre Dame tight end Irv Smith.

Defensively, Head Coach Jim Mora believes Swilling was expendable because of the progress of his replacement, former 1990 No. 1 West Virginia draft pick Renaldo Turnbull.

Saturday's pre-season matchup with Green Bay at Madison's Camp Randall Stadium will be the third exhibition game for both clubs as well as a preview of a regular season date Nov. 14 in the Superdome.

Big battle rages at QB

Hebert's departure to Atlanta was triggered by the Saints luring 13-year vet Wade Wilson from the Falcons and announcing he would engage in a battle with youngsters Steve Walsh and Mike Buck for the starting berth.

In essence, Hebert's problem was more contractual than anything else in that for-

JIM BURGESS



mer General Manager Jim Finks felt he was being led on by the QB's agent, Gary Campbell.

Based on experience, Wilson, who spent most of his career with the Vikings, appears to be the logical starter at least until the highly-regarded Buck can develop more. Meanwhile, Walsh appears ticketed for third string.

In effect, Hayward's departure to Chicago signalled Muster's arrival from the Bears. Should Muster remain healthy, he could team with second-year Indiana product Vaughn Dunbar or reliable veteran

NEXT WEEK'S OPPONENT

Dalton Hilliard to create a productive backfield.

The prime receiving target is nine-year vet Eric Martin, who had 68 receptions for 1,041 yards and five TDs last year. Mora is looking for a good complement to Muster in Floyd Turner who is recovering from a broken leg suffered last year. Quinn Early and Torrance Small should also see ample action.

The Saints spent one of two first-round draft choices on Notre Dame tight end Irv Smith who carries "can't miss" credentials because of his blocking as well as receiving ability.

Anchoring the line is 10-year veteran center Joel Hilgenberg. Guards Jim Dombrowski and Derrick Kennard are firmly settled in, while Willie Roaf, and Richard Cooper will battle for starting tackle berths.

Roaf, the draft's eighth overall pick, was also the first lineman chosen. The 6-4, 300-pounder excels in all levels of the game and could perhaps contribute "big time" immediately. Based on his development at La Crosse, he should start this season.

Linebacking remains sound

New Orleans sent all four of its linebackers, outsiders Swilling and Rickey Jackson, and insiders Sam Mills and Vaughan Johnson to last year's Pro Bowl.

Even with the trade of Swilling to the Lions, this area remains the Saints' strongest unit because 1990 top choice Renaldo Turnbull is ready to step in. The 6-4, 250-pounder is expected to become another fierce pass rusher, like his predecessor.

Up front, 1989 top draft choice Wayne

Martin recorded 15.5 sacks and is entrenched at right end. However, veteran left end Frank Warren and nose tackle Jim Wilks will be pushed by Les Miller and Robert "Pig" Goff, respectively.

New Orleans' above average secondary consists of Reginald Jones and Toi Cook at the corners, Brett Maxie at strong safety, and Gene Atkins at free safety.

Four-year Central (Ohio) vet Vince Buck is versatile enough to step in where needed. He will challenge Jones and Cook for more playing time, and if Maxie, coming off knee surgery, isn't ready, will fill in there.

Can't kick about Anderson

The Saints have a strong kicking tandem in placekicker Morten Anderson and punter Tommy Barnhardt.

Perennial All-Pro Anderson was 29-of-34 on three-pointers last year, including three straight from beyond 50 yards. He has scored more than 100 points in seven of the last eight seasons. Barnhardt punted 67 times for a lofty 44-yard average.

New Orleans' special teams are weakened by the lack of a game-breaking return specialist which is evidenced by the fact the Saints ranked last in punt returns and 13th on kickoffs in '92. Nebraska fifth round draft choice Tyrone Hughes could be the best bet among a crop of hopefuls.

Quotable Quote

Reggie White on Buddy Ryan: "He wants everybody to be intense and instilled that attitude. He just lets you know what he expects, that's what he wants to see. You either give it or you're out of there."

The Coaches

75th Anniversary Series

Only three men have winning records here

And now The Coaches — the second in this series commemorating the Packers' Diamond Jubilee:

Knute Rockne, the legendary Notre Dame coach and possibly other coaches, espoused the following phrase:

"One loss is good for the soul. Too many losses is not good for the coach."

The Packers are now on their 11th head coach, not counting co-coaches for two games back in 1953. Eleven coaches isn't bad considering their long life, now 75 years young. The Chicago Bears, just about as ancient as Green Bay, also are on No. 11.

Compared to other teams the Packers are pretty stable. The Chicago-St. Louis-Phoenix Cardinals are the champion coach-movers. They've had 28 coaches and three cities since 1920. The Washington Redskins are no slouches either, with 21 since 1932. Detroit, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia each had 18 switches.

Green Bay's coaching is almost as unique as the franchise itself. Consider:

Three coaches, Curly Lambeau (31 years), Vince Lombardi (9) and Bart Starr (9) used up 49 years of the 75. The remaining eight crowded into 25 years. And only three of the 11 had winning records: Lambeau, Lombardi and now Mike Holmgren in his first year.

Lambeau and Lombardi are in a class by themselves in Packer lore. If River City had a Mt. Rushmore they'd be up there, though these two personalities wouldn't be smiling at each other.

These two guys produced all of the Pack's 11 NFL championships, Lambeau scoring six and Lombardi five, including the first two Super Bowls. They are the only coaches in the history of the NFL to record three straight title seasons, like so:

Lambeau's men rolled up a record 34-5-2 in winning the championships in 1929-30-31, providing some "relief" for Green Bay during the Great Depression. Lombardi's men posted 31-9-2 in League play and 7-0 in post-season action in his triple, 1965-67.

These two coaches were direct opposites: Lambeau was called The Big

Belgian. He was an incurable optimist. He was a super "holler" guy. His teams were known as "the pro team with the college spirit." He grew up in Green Bay's Belgian patch on the north side.

Lombardi was strictly Big City. He cut his teeth in a tough Italian section of Brooklyn. He played football at Fordham and also was an honor student. He passed up a shot at being a lawyer to teach in high school, plus coach football. In Green Bay he "taught" football and had a knack for handling players.

Lambeau died June 1, 1965 of a mas-

ART DALEY



sive heart attack at the age of 67. Lombardi died Sept. 3, 1970 of cancer at 57. Ironically, both coached the Redskins after leaving Green Bay; Lambeau in 1952 and Lombardi in 1969.

Who's next on the Pack's coaching totem pole? Holmgren is the only coach besides Curly and Vince who was able to post a winning record in his first year, but let's pass on Mike since his mark is yet to be made.

Okay, there's no question about the Pack's two top coaches, but who's No. 3 among the eight gents with too many losses? They are Gene Ronzani 1950-53, Lisle Blackbourn 1954-57; Scooter McLean 1958, Phil Bengtson 1968-70, Dan Devine 1971-74, Bart Starr 1975-83, Forrest Gregg 1984-87, Lindy Infante 1988-91.

Bengtson and Devine had the best won-lost percentages but they had the remnants of Lombardi's teams. Bengtson was 20-21 for .488 and Devine, 25-27, for .482. In addition, Devine's 1972 team won the Central Division.

Only two other coaches managed above .400 ratios. Starr's teams posted 52-76-3 for .408 and Gregg's groups were 25-37-1 for .405. Infante was next with .375 on 24-40, including a 10-6 campaign. Ronzani posted .309 on 14-31-1, Blackbourn .375 on 17-31 and McLean .125 on 1-10-1.

Can you come up with a No. 3 from that bunch?

It's not easy but my choice would be Starr. Bart had ample time to make it, nine seasons, but there is a general feeling that if he'd had one more year he would have turned the Packers into a winner. In his last three years, he was 8-8 in 1981, 5-3-1 and Central Division champion in the strike year of 1982 and 8-8 in '83.

Starr was and is a real favored person in Green Bay for his exploits as the Packer quarterback for 16 seasons and as a good citizen. He gained special recognition as a coach when he worked as quarterback coach under Devine in 1972 when the Pack finished 10-4 and Division champs.

Thus, when Devine faltered in '74, Starr was the natural pick as head coach the next year. Starr had two strikes against him right from the start: No. 1 he had just one year of experience as a coach and No. 2: Devine bankrupted the Pack's draft by giving the Rams two first choices and three seconds for aging QB John Hadl during the '74 season. Starr went with Hadl in his first year but then traded for Lynn Dickey, a fixture for 10 seasons.

Other than people like James Lofton, John Anderson, Ezra Johnson, Greg Koch and Mark Lee, Starr never had a lot of luck with the draft. The feeling was that Bart and the assistant coaches made most of the decisions rather than relying on his draft personnel. A big acquisition was John Jefferson, a fleet flanker to pair with Lofton.

Starr's last team broke a 31-year Packer scoring record, posting 429 points in 16

games. However, the opponents rolled up 439. Only one other Packer team scored more than 400 points, the 13-1 Lombardien of 1962, counting 412 in 14 games.

Gregg's teams posted back-to-back 8-8 seasons in his first two years but then he decided to start over, cutting Dickey, Paul Coffman and others. The quarterback juggling followed and went through Infante's reign before it finally ended with the arrival of Brett Favre under Holmgren.

Who had the impossible jobs? How about the two guys who replaced legends — Ronzani, who followed Lambeau, and Bengtson, who followed Lombardi? It wasn't so tough for Ronzani since Lambeau had a losing year but Bengtson had to win a fourth straight title to keep up with Lombardi.

The feeling around the NFL is Green Bay is a good place to coach.

But no place is a good place if the coach has too many losses.

Curly Lambeau
PACKER REPORT

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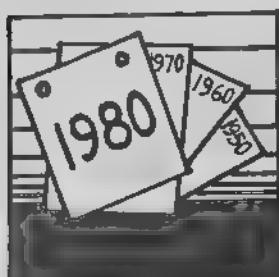
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THE PACKER COACHES

	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Curly Lambeau, 1921-49	209	104	21	.657	5,420	3,559
Gene Ronzani, 1950-53*	14	31	1	.309	952	1,349
Hugh Devore, Ray McLean '53**	0	2	0	.000	41	82
Lisle Blackbourn, 1954-57	17	31	0	.354	974	1,180
Ray McLean, 1958	1	10	1	.125	193	382
Vince Lombardi, 1959-67	89	29	4	.746	3,080	1,873
Phil Bengtson, 1968-70	20	21	1	.488	746	741
Dan Devine, 1971-74	25	27	4	.482	990	989
Bart Starr, 1975-83	52	76	3	.408	2,283	2,728
Forrest Gregg, 1984-87	25	37	1	.405	1,236	1,382
Lindy Infante, 1988-91	24	40	0	.375	1,146	1,331
Mike Holmgren, 1992	9	7	0	.563	276	296
Totals	485	415	36	.537	17,337	15,892

*Resigned after 10th game in 1953

**Co-coaches



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO: John Anderson

by Jerry Poling

Fifteen years ago, John Anderson arrived as one of Green Bay's two No. 1 draft picks. With the other pick, receiver James Lofton, the 1978 Packers figured they had potential offensive and defensive stars to anchor their club for many years.

Two weeks ago, Anderson was back in Green Bay for training camp.

Once again he was a rookie. Once again the excitement level was high.

But this time Anderson wasn't part of the Packers — he was covering them for WITI-TV, Milwaukee's CBS affiliate.

Now in his second year there, this will be Anderson's first season as color analyst for Packer pre-season games on the four-station Wisconsin network.

At camp, he was gathering material, working with producers, interviewing players.

He hardly had time to reminisce, but he was relishing being part of the Packers again.

"This will be my rookie season, so to speak," Anderson said. "I'm looking forward to it. It's a great opportunity to get in on the ground floor of a team I think is going places. It's going to be fun."

Anderson, 37, will team with play-by-play announcer Bill Jartz, sports director of Green Bay's WBAY-TV.

"I have not seen this level of excitement in pre-season since I've been involved with the Packers. There is more genuine excitement about what's going on with the additions of people and with the way they came through last year, with their willingness to go out and acquire talent to make them a better club."

"There's no guarantee anything will happen, but it's nice to be part of that atmosphere," said Anderson, who applauds the decision to hire General Manager Ron Wolf.

"With giving Ron Wolf football authority they have taken that pressure off the head coach and gotten a man in there who is football conscious. Nothing else. That's made a more efficient and effective organization. If they need to make a football decision, they have a man who can do it," Anderson said.

Will bring knowledge to booth

After 12 seasons as a Packers' linebacker, Anderson is confident he can bring a certain amount of insight into his TV observations. Of course, he admits that as a rookie he has plenty to learn.

He had no previous TV experience before joining Channel 6. He had spent about two years mulling career opportunities after he retired Jan. 15, 1990.

He did have some off-season radio experience and was a popular banquet speaker while with the Packers.

"I know there are some rough edges that will have to be worked out, but I am looking forward to the opportunity."

"I've come to believe the game is much easier watched from a distance on your TV than on the field. You hear people in the stands and on TV complaining



Former linebacker John Anderson hasn't traded in his uniform (notice he was No. 60 when this was taken) for a spot behind a still camera — he's on the visible side of a television camera. Anderson works as a sports reporter for WITI-TV in Milwaukee and is in his first pre-season as color man for his former employer's exhibition-season TV network.

— Vernon J. Biever photo

or criticizing, and that's inaccurate because they don't see everything that goes on."

While Anderson will lean toward emphasizing the players' point of view, he says he won't be afraid to criticize those who make mistakes.

Anderson, a likely candidate for the Packer Hall of Fame, was considered one of the most reliable, mistake-free players.

"I don't have any qualms about saying (for example), that (Ken) Ruetgers blew it on that pass protection. They're professional enough to know it," Anderson said.

Anderson is happy from a journalistic standpoint that many of his close friends also no longer with the team, making it easier for him to be objective.

"The number who I played with has steadily declined. Whereas I might go in

and run into 25 or 30 players before, it's not a half-dozen now. From a job situation, that's probably a better climate to be in. You're treating everyone without the personal attachment," he said.

He's still learning about TV

In addition to the pre-season games, Anderson covers the team for WITI. That's his main beat in the fall. He also covers other teams and sports where needed — and fills in as sports anchor.

"Weekends are pretty much gone like they used to be," he admitted.

"I get to experience a little bit of everything. We did a bow-hunting story a couple of months ago. We did a rifle story. I couldn't have told you two things about it before that. You get to meet some people and learn some things," he said.

Anderson still is polishing his delivery and learning TV's finer points.

"You look back at some of the first things you did and say, 'Oh my gosh.' But you become more competent at what you're doing and become better."

"It's a little different on the other side of the whole business of putting together the product and editing. Putting stories together is quite different from what people think. There are a lot more elements involved. Good television doesn't just happen. I've come to understand what they do is not as easy as what you might think, or as glamorous. Covering a team may be fun, but it's work too. After awhile, the interview becomes work."

Anderson, a native of the Milwaukee suburb of Waukesha, doesn't have any grand plan to advance his broadcasting career. He's not waiting for a call from CBS, he insists.

"I think John Madden's job is safe for

Continued on Page 19



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Lions start to play hardball

Lions GM Chuck Schmidt and assistant Michael Huyghue are starting to play hardball with second-round DB Ryan McNeil from Miami (Fla.). In the past, Detroit's front office yielded to the demands of its draft choices, but this time, the Lions left for Europe without McNeil, and when they return this week the price will go down daily.



Detroit Lions

"By the time we return, his value to us diminishes," said Huyghue. "The money we offered won't be the same."

The Lions will slash their offer from \$500 to \$1000 daily. Normally, that wouldn't seem like much, but this season there's the variable of the salary cap.

The Lions have \$363,000 remaining from their rookie salary cap allowance — which will be distributed among the other draft picks who make the final 53-man roster.

The Lions, heavy favorites to return to the playoffs, face critical needs in the secondary having lost Melvin Jenkins and Sheldon White through free agency.

"I'm concerned," admitted coach Wayne Fontes in a rare display of coaching openness. "We're dropping into rookies and guys who have never played before."

Of course, that description fits McNeil. If McNeil stays out — or even if he comes in later — the Lions are now considering loose cannon, but hard-hitting Tim McKyer, late of the 49ers, Dolphins and Falcons.

LIONS NOTEBOOK: OL Shawn Bouwens and DE Marc Spindler signed just before the team departed for London. ... DL Dan Owens and Lawrence Pete remain unsigned. ... WR Reggie Barnett and FB James Jones returned to practice. ... WR Herman Moore remains sidelined with a pulled hamstring. ... OT Lomas Brown and the Lions remain far apart on a new contract. Brown wants either a one-year (to test the free-agent waters) or a three-year (security) contract; the Lions are offering two.



Chicago Bears

The signature of the Bears under Mike Ditka was a search-and-destroy defense and a bruising game.

New coach Dave Wannstedt won't scrap that identity, but he wants to add wide receiver speed. As the Cowboys' defensive coordinator, it was something he always feared, and he wants the opposition to have those same fears about the Bears.

Enter Curtis Conway and Anthony Morgan, who have the capacity to stretch defenses.

"We've got a little more speed than we did in the past, so we're trying to take advantage of the things (Conway and Morgan) can do," said QB Peter Tom Willis.

"That's going to be more of our offense. We'll usually be sending somebody deep, and if somebody is open, we'll throw it."

Even if the Bears don't become a passing circus — it will be interesting to see how much they turn Jim Harbaugh loose — the presence of outside speed can also be a weapon. Once they hit several deep passes, defenses must prepare for the long ball and consequently this opens up things underneath and could help spring the running game.

We shall see.

BEARS NOTEBOOK: CB Lemuel Stinson reinjured his hamstring after returning to practice. ... RB Mark Green has fluid on his knee. ... RT Keith Van Horne said he was rusty after ending his holdout: "I'm thinking too much now and not trying to mess up."



Minnesota Vikings

One of the rites of summer is hanging on.

Veterans hang on for one more year; younger players hang on for one more chance.

Pencil in RB Keith Henderson as the latter.

Once the San Francisco 49ers' third-round pick in 1991, Henderson has carried the ball only 14 times in the past two years because of serious knee problems.

With RB Terry Allen probably out for the season with an injured knee, this is Henderson's shot, said coach Dennis Green.

"Right now, Keith looks like the guy



CENTRAL ISSUES

who is going to get some more time," said Green, who said the Vikings could rotate up to four backs this season.

"(Keith) has the potential for a big season."

Henderson sees that, too.

"I most definitely expect to step in and have a big year," he said. "You don't want to see somebody get hurt, but you always want to play more. This is a big year for me in a lot of ways."

The Vikings figure to exploit Henderson more than the 49ers, who used him mostly as a blocker and safety-valve receiver. He will do those things in Minnesota, but the Vikings also see the runner who averaged 4.1 yards a carry in 1991.

VIKINGS NOTEBOOK: QB Jim McMahon has now played in four games in Europe and can see the international appeal of football: "There may be more interest now. The World League has come over. They have their own leagues over here. It seems like it's getting bigger." ... TE Tony Lenseigne (hamstring) returned to practice. ... TE Brent Novoselsky left camp to be with his wife, Andrea, who went into labor with the couple's first child.

... The team extended the contracts of S Todd Scott and CB Audray McMillian.



Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Will it ever happen for Charles McRae?

At 6-7 and 300 pounds, the former 1991 first-round pick was supposed to be an

anchor on the Bucs' offensive line. He was supposed to be another Anthony Munoz — maybe that's why the Bucs signed the former Bengal and future Hall of Famer, to teach McRae — but has become the next Tony Mandarich.

He hears the talk, and it upsets him. Partly because, like all humans, he doesn't enjoy criticism; and partly because the criticism is accurate. That's always the worst kind.

"I don't want anybody to say, 'He wasn't worth a first-round pick.' I don't want anybody to say I didn't go out there and give it my best effort," said McRae.

McRae is a bright guy who has plenty of interests, and as a first-round pick who has earned nearly \$3 million the past two years, he could afford those interests. However, this year, he says he'll streamline his time during the season for just football. "During the season, there's not much time for anything," said McRae. "This is a 7 to 7 job."

BUCS NOTEBOOK: Currently, McRae is listed behind Scott Dill and left tackle. Normally a right tackle, McRae was moved to the left side as Paul Gruber continues his holdout. Munoz is on the right side. ... "Nothing is happening," is Bucs VP Rich McKay's update on negotiations with Gruber. ... DE Eric Curry and S Marty Carter remain unsigned. ... WR Courtney Hawkins has a bruised heel. ... RB Reggie Cobb (hamstring) wasn't expected to play Saturday against Denver. ... C Tim Ryan (groin) and WR Lamar Thomas (shoulder) are half-speed.

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Pick Zgonina or Caesar

Dear Al and Ray:

As for '93, of course, I'd like to see improvement on both sides of the ball. One way the defense could improve would be to draft either Mark Caesar (Miami, Florida) or Jeff Zgonina (Purdue) with our first pick. If this happens, I believe with a few changes the Pack defense could be in the top five of the NFL.

First, adjust the D-line to Brock and Caesar/Zgonina at defensive tackles and insert Paup and Bennett at defensive ends. Position Koonce and Holland at outside linebackers and in the middle use either Noble or D'Onofrio. The secondary would remain constant with Buckley and Mitchell at the corners and Cecil and Butler at safeties.

On the other side, any help the offensive line receives his desperately needed. Right tackle Hansen (Colorado) and right guard Wisdom (Syracuse) could come in immediately and help.

Favre and Sharpe attack!

Sandi and Dennis Stark
Hager City, WI

Mind blowing

Dear Packer Report,

What is going on with this organization? Nine wins last year? Legitimately deserving to be in the playoffs if fate had brought them there? Something is not normal on Lombardi Ave. Spending millions and millions of dollars to bring in the game's best defensive end? What's next, the executive committee getting into aerobics? Pretty strange stuff Al.

I'll tell you what's going on Al, and I'm sure every Packer fan in the world knows it by now. There's a new attitude in Title Town, U.S.A. It began with Bob Harlan, is being administered by Ron Wolf, and enforced by Mike Holmgren. The events of the past 18 months have been mind-blowing. We have literally witnessed the turnaround of a franchise on a scale rarely seen in the sports world, and, if all goes as it should, may end up being the envy of the NFL: strong financial stability, an elite general manager, and a championship head coach. Hold on tight folks, this is going to be one heck of a ride!

I sat down to write this letter after hearing about the signing of Mark Clayton, another outstanding move by Ron Wolf. Clayton's not the long-term answer, but he does plug up another hole in the still-leaking dike. Al, I would very much like to give my thoughts on this year's Packer Draft and Free Agent signings, if you'd please.

Ron Wolf has been characterized by some as a risk taker, as far as personnel

decisions go. The 1993 Draft confirms this notion, big time. The first round pick of Wayne Simmons was solid, and Wayne's talents will fortify the Packer "D" in many ways. He's very athletic, rushes the QB, covers TE's and RB's like a blanket, and will play every down. George Teague on the other hand, could be a big hit or a big miss. I believe if he sticks to free safety he will reach his big-play potential, which is what Wolf looks for in a player. Trading two second-round picks makes this selection a Wolf-type risk. The rest of the draft picks all seem to have a development/gamble tag attached to them: talented, over-

God Brett Favre is right handed. The only other defection of note is Chuck Cecil. Let's get real folks. Cecil was a hard hitting over-achiever. He is almost as slow as Mark Murphy was, and his coverage skills were moderate at best. He usually got away with just being "Johnny on the spot" and wowing the crowd with Ronnie Lott — like hits. Coverage and speed are a must a free safety and someone like George Teague fits that mold much better. Thanks Chuck, it was fun.

I would also like to throw out a couple of trade possibilities. A few Packer fans



With the off-season acquisition of several high-profile free agents, led by all-time sack leader Reggie White, Packer fans rightly expected a more auspicious start to the season than back-to-back lackluster performances and an 0-2 record.

— James V. Biever photo

weight tackles and prototypically sized small school DB's. I do believe that fifth rounders LB James Willis and QB Mark Brunell could have great long-term impact on this team. I see Willis backing up Johnny Holland and as a force on special teams, and Brunell some day backing up Favre just as Steve Young backed up Joe Montana all those years.

The aggressiveness the Packer organization has shown in the free agent market has been unbelievable. Signing Reggie White was astounding, but they still kept going! I don't think we'll be seeing any more linebackers skipping off to Canada, so lightening up all you Packer cynics! I think the additions of White, Galbreath and Maas will be the three biggest free agent additions to any one NFL team this year. The Packers needed offensive and defensive line help, and they achieved that very well.

The resigning of the Packer restricted free agents was a great success. Bringing back James Campen was crucial and Roland Mitchell will solidify the DB's. The only sore spot I can see in all this off-season maneuvering is the failure to bring back Tootie Robbins. Robbins was purely stop-gap, but what else does the Pack have? Tunch Ilkin, Joe Sims, and two rookies-to-be-developed. Ouch. Thank

Well that's all from the west coast Al. Thanks for letting me "get off a few blasts" as Jim Rome on San Diego's XTRA-AM

would say. Let's go Pack!!

Sincerely,
Jay Rinehart
San Diego, CA

Boy, California has everything. A fumbling school! What a country.

— Ed.

Dear Ed., Packer Report, and all Packer fans,

Hi, how's it going? Fine I hope!

My wife and I are devoted Packer fans, we have been for many years. We love attending games here and away. Nothing like tailgating and being in the stadium amongst the fans. Since the hiring of Bob Harlan, Ron Wolf, and Mike Holmgren I think this team is coming together and we're in for a really good season.

I have a suggestion and I'd like some response from the editor and the fans. My suggestion is this year after each touchdown, after the end of each quarter of play, or at the end of the game (win or lose) we have a toast (or cheer) to the Packers. We could stand, lift our cups, or swing our green and gold towels and say (or sing) something like this;

Here's to the Packers...

Here's to Green and Gold...

Lift your cup to the Packers...

The Packers of new and old, Rah! Rah!

or something on that order. What do you think Packer fans?

Sincerely,
Mr. and Mrs. R. Newton
Well Allis, WI

'92 will be a shadow of '93

Dear Packer Report,

The 1992 season is one which all Packer fans should be proud of, but I'm thankful to say that it is going to fall into the shadows of the 1993 season!

A fact that I think many people forgot about in the 1992 season is that we should have been 10-6 instead of 9-7. Remember the very first game of the year! We went into overtime with Minnesota (and eventually lost) because of a terrible call in the end zone where the receiver clearly dropped the ball. Had the refs made the right call we would have made the playoffs.

Even though we didn't make the playoffs I still started talking trash about how good we are going to be this year. Nobody wants to believe me when I say that it's going to be between Dallas and Green Bay to represent the NFC in the Super Bowl. I really hope that they can back up all the good things I've said about them, but if they don't, it's no big deal because we've all lived through more than one losing season and one more won't kill us. But you can be sure that no matter how they do you will be able to find me wearing one of my many hats and shirts just as proud as can be to be a Packer fanatic!

Packer Fan Forever!

Todd Lundmark

Aviano Air Base, Italy

P.S. I leave Italy in January and will be looking for playoff tickets!

We recommend always wearing a shirt — for UV protection if nothing else.

— Ed.

Diary

Continued from page 7

Robbins, an 11th-year veteran, was nursing a left shoulder problem — some reports say bruised, others say separated — when he was released. The 6-foot-5, 315-pounder missed all but one of the Saints' workouts but a New Orleans spokesman says Tuesday that Robbins had recovered.

"Certainly he'll have to pass a (Packer) physical," General Manager Ron Wolf points out. "If he's not okay, we won't sign him. But they terminated him, so he must be OK." (Players released by NFL clubs must pass an exit physical.)

"If he's in the frame of mind that he was last year and if he's in reasonable shape like he was last year, he'd be a big plus for us," offensive line Coach Tom Lovat says. "He knows the system. If he got in and was in shape, he could step in and play that night. He could handle that."

Quarterback Brett Favre, no doubt cognizant of the fact Robbins did not surrender a 1992 sack, says, "If we have a chance to get him back, I hope we jump on it."

"He's such a good guy. He hated to leave and we hated to see him go. If he came back, I'd feel a lot better. I miss those old guys. I've only been around them for a year, but I hope we get them all in."

Veteran Tunch Ilkin had been penciled in to replace Robbins, but Ken Ruettgers' holdout has forced him to be the starting left tackle all of camp. Third-year-man Joe Sims, who saw action in 15 1992 games but didn't start one, has been playing well as the starting right tackle — until he separated his left shoulder in the exhibition opener.

"Joe Sims is better than we had hoped and seems to be regaining some strength," Holmgren says. "That's a fairly positive outlook for Joe."

But, "I would be surprised if he could play Saturday," Holmgren says, of the Chiefs' game.

Ilkin is nursing a sore triceps but is expected to play against the Chiefs. He is practicing with a protective pad over his left tricep, which he pulled against the Raiders.

Thursday, Aug. 5

The team apparently continues talks

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with Robbins.

Between practices, Holmgren offers, "We're talking with Tootie. We have to see how that goes and see how he feels about playing some more. Offensive linemen who are 10, 11, 12-year players, pretty soon, your body just gives up. You've gone through the wars. That's kind of where we are with Tootie."

Robbins, 35, is in his 12th season. He started 15 1992 games at right tackle here.

Holmgren says the Packers' interest in Robbins did not necessarily end just because Green Bay acquired Dan Fike Wednesday night from Cleveland, in exchange for a sixth-round 1994 draft pick. Fike practices Thursday afternoon.

Thursday morning is the first practice here for newly acquired wide receiver Shawn Collins, a free agent signed Wednesday.

Friday, Aug. 7

In preparation for the Chiefs' game, Green Bay practices for two hours as usual in the morning on the Oneida Street practice field. They also have a light 45-minute afternoon workout in Lambeau Field, which is closed to the public.

Murphy selling real estate

Former Packer Mark Murphy lives in his hometown of North Canton, Ohio and is selling real estate.

The 35-year-old is on the coaching staff of nearby Malone College and may have his hands full there — the school's football program is in its first year.

Murphy says he plays a lot of basketball, works out and plays softball from the only church team in Canton.

Anderson

Continued from Page 15

now," he said with a laugh.

However, Anderson doesn't rule out getting into coaching.

"That's a possibility that still exists somewhere down the road, but right now I'm very happy with what I'm doing."

Was All-Rookie in 1978

For one year after retiring from the Packers, Anderson did not return to Green Bay.

"It's just something ... I don't know. It's just very difficult to describe that. I just wanted to stay away," he said.

"I wanted some time away from everything to kind of decide what was next. I took I don't know how long to do that. I talked to a lot of people. I tried to balance what jobs were out there and what I wanted to do."

He mulled over several possibilities before landing his present job. He had originally proposed to WITI doing a Sunday-night Packer show, but the idea didn't go. He eventually got back in touch, and they asked him to fill the sports-job opening.

Anderson was an environmental-education major at the University of Michigan, where he starred as the team's punter in addition to linebacker.

In 1978, Anderson was consensus NFL All-Rookie when he made four interceptions in his first three games. However, that season was cut short when he broke his left arm in the 12th game.

His next two seasons also were marred by re-breaks of the same arm.

By the early 1980s, after surgery to strengthen the arm and with a pad protect-

ing it, Anderson began to shine. He was the Packers' defensive MVP from 1982 through 1984. In 1983, he had 120 solo tackles, four QB sacks and five interceptions for his best season.

He started 77 straight games until he suffered a broken leg in the fourth game of the 1986 season.

Anderson still was playing well during his final season in 1989, when he ranked among the team leaders with 71 tackles. That's exactly how he wanted to go out — playing well.

It was his decision to retire. He knew his physical skills were beginning to slip, although the coaches said they didn't notice any dropoff in production.

Knew when it was quittin' time

"Physically I hadn't been holding up like I had previously. I could sense it. I could tell I was not playing with the same performance levels. I was fighting nagging injuries."

"Truthfully, I wanted to go out on a good note, and in 1989 we just missed the playoffs and provided a whole lot of exciting games. I felt that was the time to do it. I was able to go out still playing well," he said.

"Too many athletes stick around for a year or two more than they really should. A lot of players think they should be owed a year or two just to enjoy the sights."

Anderson's only regret is the Packers didn't win more. They made the playoffs only once, 1983, when No. 59 was roaming the field.

"We weren't able to get over the hump for various reasons. Having gone to two Rose Bowls and won Big Ten championships, those are the things you remember."

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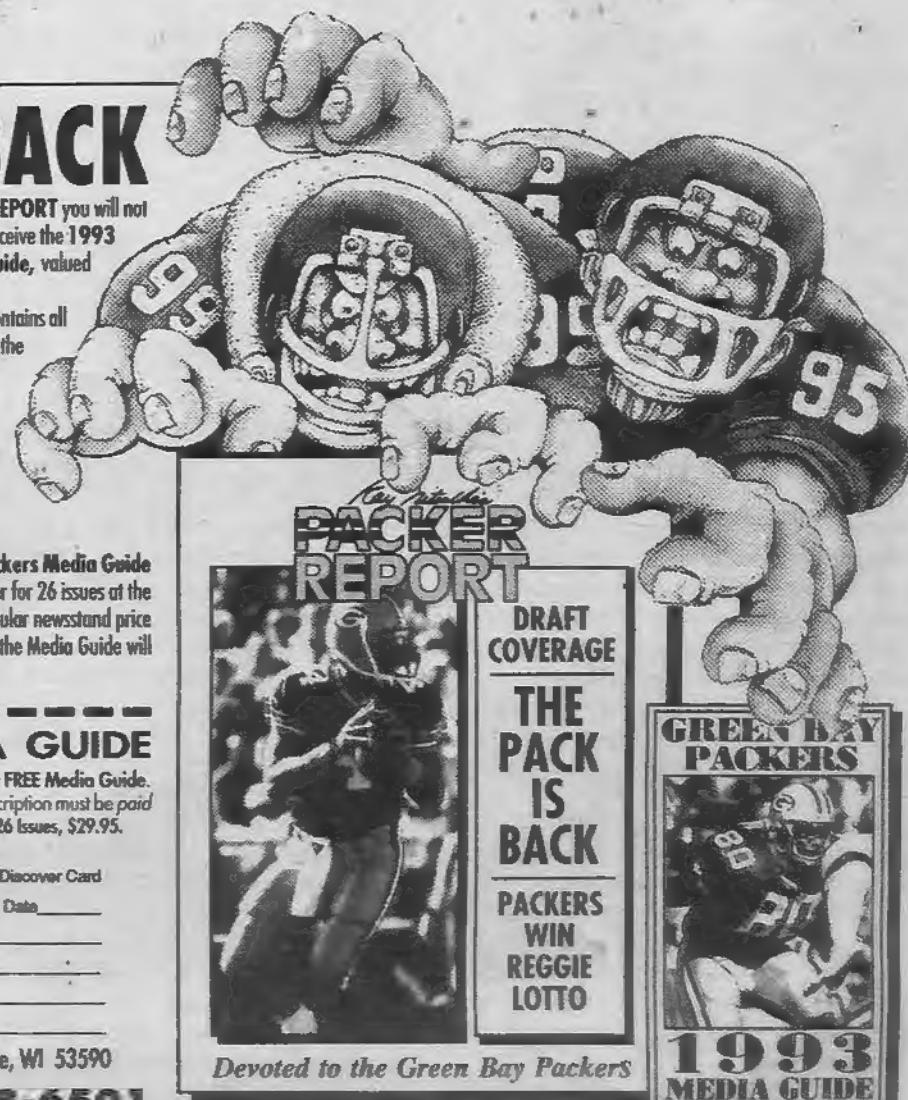
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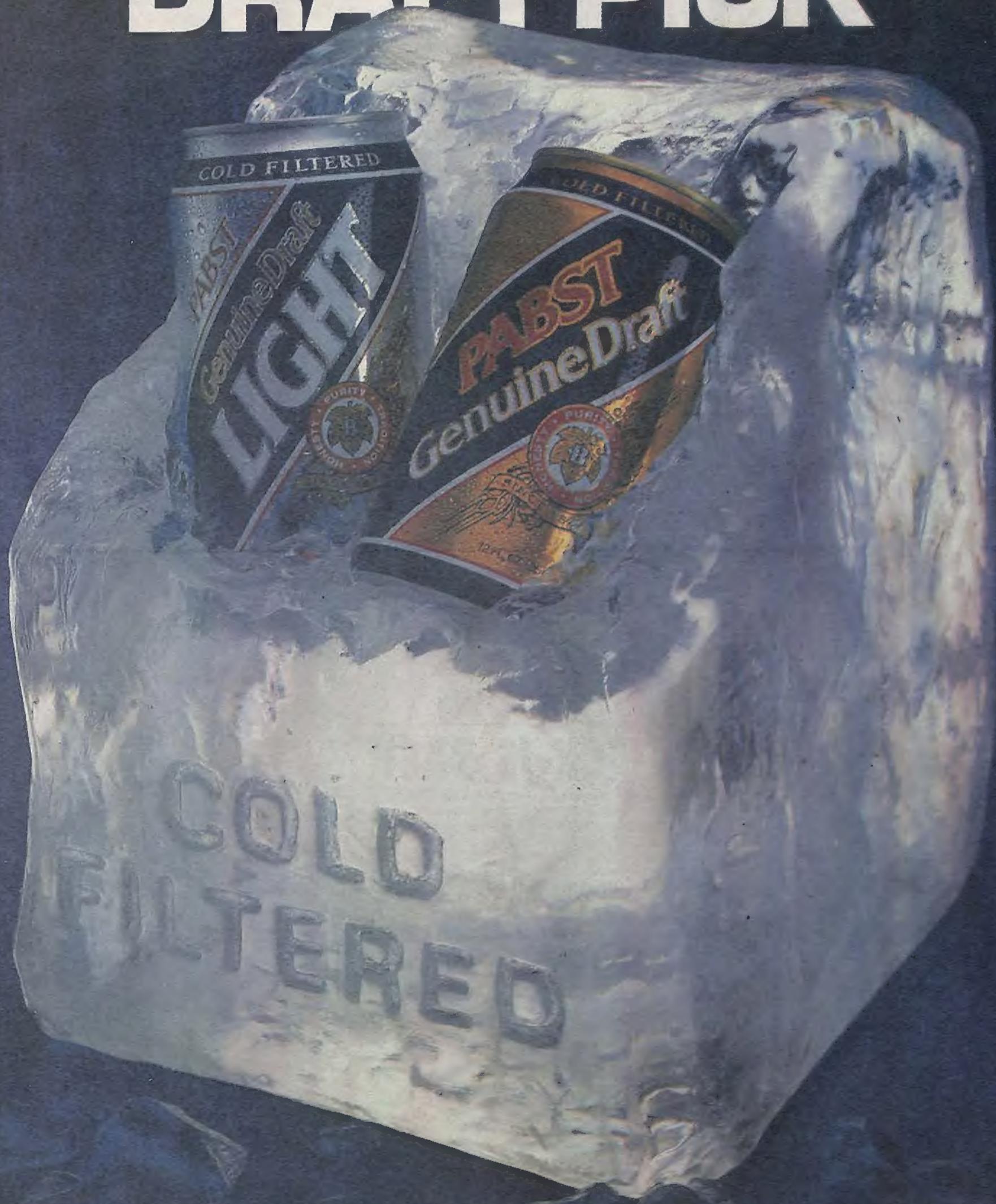
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